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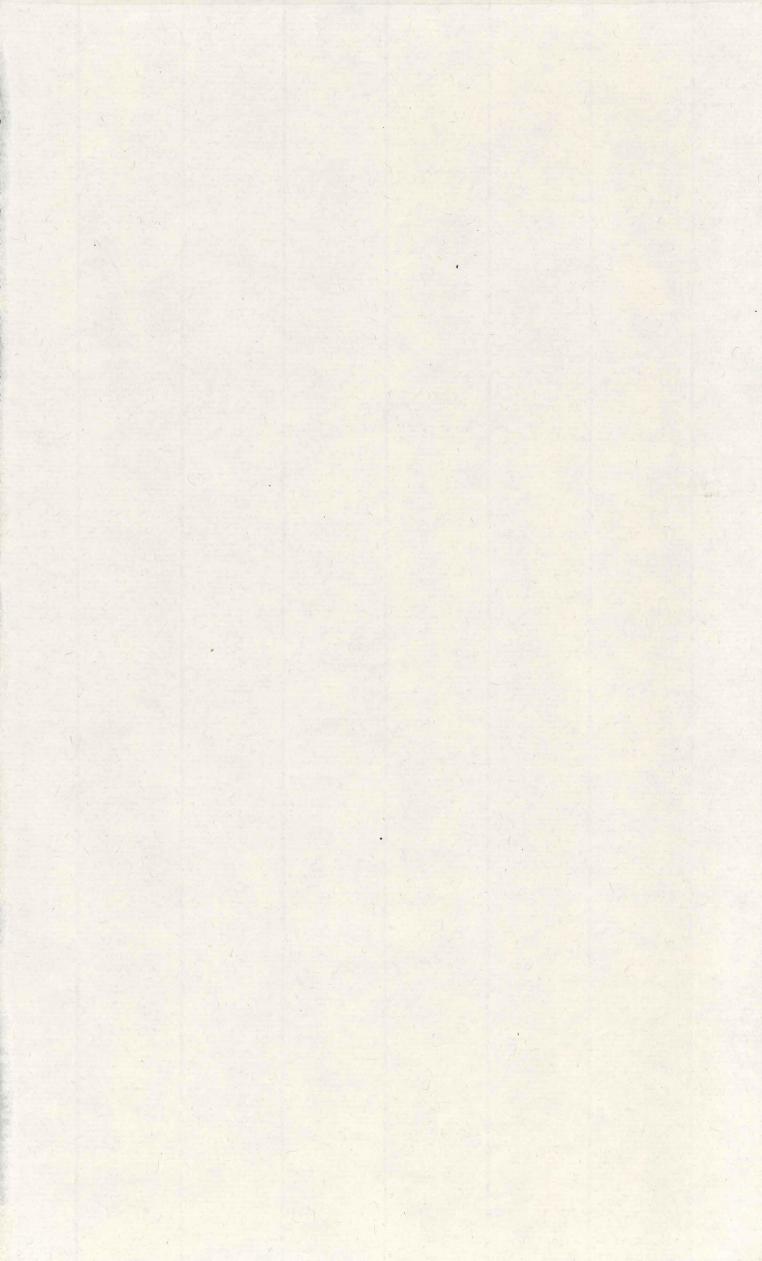
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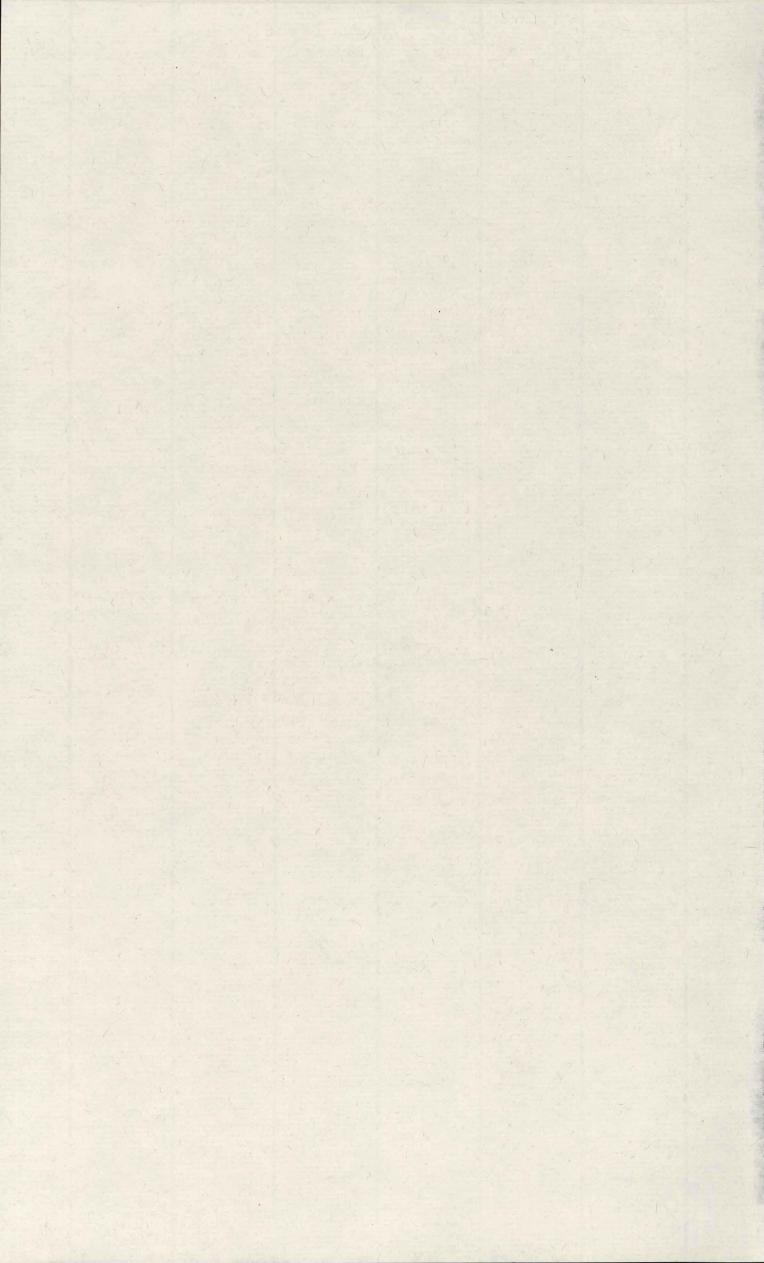


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Colonies

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British Parliamentary Papers

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES 1867-68

> Colonies General 12



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Irish University Press Shannon Ireland
DUBLIN CORK BELFAST LONDON NEW YORK
T M MacGlinchey Publisher
Robert Hogg Printer

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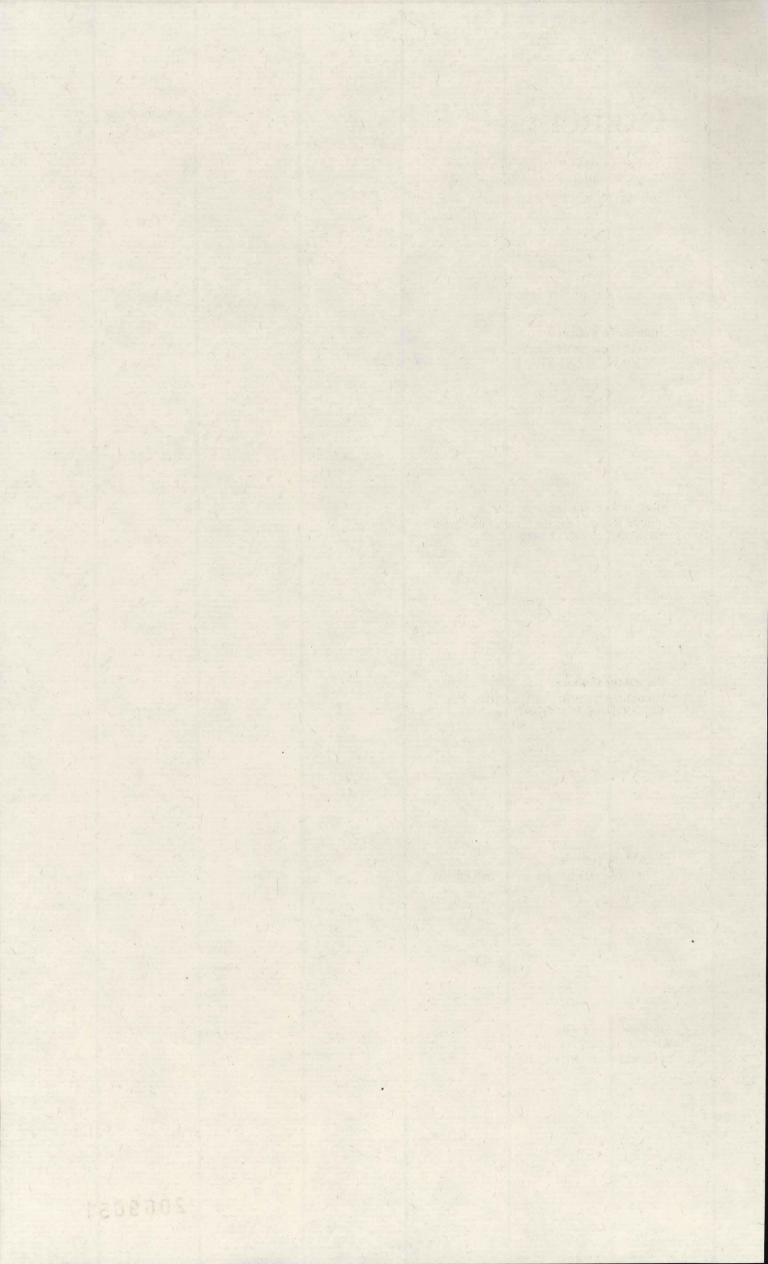
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REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

For the Year 1865.

PART I.—WEST INDIES AND MAURITIUS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty,

May 1867.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1867.

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PART I.

WEST INDIES AND MAURITIUS.

JAMAICA.
No. 1.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. Peter Grant, K.C.B., to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 1.)

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose a Report on the Jamaica Blue Book for 1865.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the JAMAICA BLUE BOOK for 1865.

Taxes.

The principal taxes in this Colony are:-

For General Purposes-

Import Duty, Tonnage Dues, Rum Duty, Stamp Duty, and

House and Live Stock Tax; and

For Roads and Immigration—

Land Tax, Export Duty,

Horse and Wheel Tax.

The taxation of the Island averages 14s. 7d. on each inhabitant,—a remarkably small amount as compared with other Colonies of like character. This includes not only all dues of every description, whether for municipal, parochial, or other local objects, including the support of the poor, but also payments for lighthouses, for postal service, &c. &c.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1865.	20000				186	5.				
Revenue.					Expend	itur				
Revenue from taxation - Casual revenue	£ 321,859 13,017	s. 7 18	d. 5 5	Detailed expe Sinking fund Loans repaid	nditure		£ 363,602 16,492 3,900	s. 6 6 0	d. 0 0	
Total ordinary revenue Raised by loan Excess of deposits received	24,239	0	10 0	Dom's repair			0,000			
over deposits repaid -	13,656	2	0							
Total receipts - Diminution in cash ba- lance during the year -	372,772 11,222	4	10 2							
	383,994	12	0				383,994	12	0	
Increase of d Increase of d Decrease of	lebt	ce			£ 13,656 20,339 11,222	s. 2 0 4	0			
To	tal deficit	of	the y	vear	45,217	6	2			

Revenue.

JAMAICA.

The revenue of the year ending 30th September 1865, from all sources, amounted to 334,877l. 5s. 10d., and a further sum of 24,239l. was raised by loans. Of the above revenue, 321,859l. 7s. 5d. was raised by taxation, and the casual receipts were 13,017l. 18s. 5d.

The chief sources of revenue yielded as follows:-

Commence of the state of the st		£	S.	d.
Import duty	-	174,342	17	6
Rum duty	-	44,752		
Tax on houses, stock, carts, &c.	-	29,212		
Export duty		17,588	0	9
Stamp duty -	-	13,614	19	11
Post Office	-	10,470		
Licences to sell spirits -	-	10,146		
Tonnage dues and charges on shipping	-	9,996		
Land tax -	-	5,838		8
Capitation tax paid upon immigrants	by			
their employers	-	3,219	12	2
Market dues		1,690		10

Compared with the previous year, the revenue shows a small increase of 1,393l.

Public Debt.

That part of the public debt of the Island which is redeemable amounts to 869,998l. 5s. 3d., against which is to be set off the sum of 135,280l. 7s. 9d., being the amount remitted for sinking funds. Of this sum of 869,998l. 5s. 3d., 600,000l. was raised in England by loan guaranteed by Her Majesty's Government, on which six per cent. is paid annually, whereof four per cent. is interest, and two per cent. is set aside and forms a sinking fund. The remainder of the redeemable debt bears interest at

Both the interest and the sinking fund payments on the whole debt have been regularly provided since the creation of the loans.

Besides the debt redeemable there is a funded debt of 64,803l. 10s. 11d., on which

interest amounting to 5,466l. 7s. 10d. a year is paid.

This funded debt consists of legacies left at various times to found educational establishments, the interest whereon, to the amount of the above sum, is expended in support of the institutions.

The Act 28 Vict. c. 23. converted the whole of the legacies into a funded debt, and apportioned the interest to the several schools founded.

Military Expenditure.

By the Colony	£ 2,521	12	d.
By Her Majesty's Government:	£	S.	d.
Troops, &c	84,934		0
Navy -	80,000	0	0
	164,934	0	0

These returns do not show any material variation from the expenditure of the previous

Militia.

The militia has long ceased to exist, although the militia law remains in force.

The volunteer movement derived an extraordinary impetus from the disturbances which occurred towards the close of the year under report, but, notwithstanding the energetic exertions of Colonel Hunt, the Inspector of Volunteers, it does not give much promise of permanency.

I must not, however, omit to state, that after the disturbances in October a body of special volunteers, upwards of 600 strong, comprising several of the most respectable and influential inhabitants, was organized, under the immediate supervision of Major-General O'Connor, for the protection of the city of Kingston.

6

JAMAICA.

After tranquillity was restored these Kingston volunteers returned their arms, and were disbanded.

Public Works.

No public work of importance was undertaken or completed during this year.

On the Lunatic Asylum the sum of $4,333l.~8s.~6\frac{1}{2}d$, was expended in making alterations, and in constructing new apartments. The works on this asylum are not yet completed. Beyond this the aggregate amount stated under this head, as spent on the other public buildings, is insignificant.

The sum expended on-21,484 11 Main roads was 18,277 11 7 Parochial roads Total for roads 39,762

Of this amount 11,010*l*. were contributed by loans raised for the purpose.

The improvement of some of the principal thoroughfares of the city of Kingston, which had long been in a very bad state, has been commenced, and a sum of 2,503l. 13s. 4d. was expended in the year under report on this work.

Legislation.

The legislation of this year included two Acts, the most important passed in the Colony since its settlement, viz., the 29 Vict., Session 1, Chapters 11 and 24, which abolished the Legislative Council, the House of Assembly, and the Executive Committee, and enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty to create and constitute a Government for the Island "in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty may " best seem fitting, and from time to time to alter or amend such Government," thus abolishing the former constitution of the Island, and placing it in the hands of Her Majesty's Government as a Crown Colony.

The event which led immediately to the passing of these Acts was the lamentable outbreak which took place on the 11th of October at Morant Bay, in the parish of

St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The other Acts requiring to be noticed are:-

1. The Stamp Act, which has a duration of two years.

2. The Import Duty Act, which levies certain duties for the same period.

3. An Act to provide for the establishment of a Lepers' Home.

Such an institution has long been urgently required, and steps have been taken to purchase a site on the sea-coast for a suitable asylum.

4. An Act for the encouragement of Building Societies.

5. An Act to provide for the appointment of an Officer for inspecting the several Revenue Departments of this Island.

6. An Act to re-establish the St. Mary's District Prison.

7. An Act to provide for the Re-construction of the Streets of Kingston.

8. An Act to authorize the erection of Gasworks in Kingston.

Nothing having been done within the prescribed time to carry out the object of this Act, the Act has expired. 9. An Act to indemnify the Governor and all other officers and persons concerned

in suppressing the late Rebellion in this Island.

10. An Act to authorize the infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain cases of

Larceny.

This last-mentioned Act was passed in consequence of the great increase of the crime of larceny of growing produce, chiefly the property of the negro peasantry. This evil had risen to such an intolerable height as to threaten very seriously to affect the cultivation, by the peasantry, of the minor products of the soil, and of the roots, fruits, and other vegetables used as the food of the people. Whipping was introduced as a penalty on a second conviction for larceny.

11. An Act to facilitate the admission of Members of the Bars of England, Scotland,

and Ireland to practise in the several Courts of this Island.

Political Franchise.

There is now no Political Franchise.

Councils and Assembly.

JAMAICA.

The old Legislative Council and the House of Assembly have been abolished by the Acts above reported. In place thereof, for legislative matters, a new Legislative Council, consisting partly of official and partly of non-official members, has been constituted, and for executive matters the Governor, advised in important questions by a privy council, replaces the Governor and Executive Committee, overruled as they were used to be by the House of Assembly.

Civil Establishment.

The principal appointments made in the year 1865 were-The Honourable Edward Jordon, C.B., Governor's Secretary. The Honourable Hugh W. Austin, Receiver General. D. P. Trench, Esq., Inspector of Revenues.

Pensions.

There are 24 persons on the pension list. With the exception of the allowances of six of the Judges who retired in 1856, these pensions are all very small. Most of them were voted annually in the Appropriation Act.

There is no pension or superannuation system in operation, and none has ever existed

The consequences of this want have been pernicious. in this Colony.

Foreign Consuls.

The following foreign countries have consuls resident in this Colony :-Sweden and Norway.

France. The United States. Prussia.

Belgium. Guatemala. Spain.

Denmark. The Hanseatic Cities. The United States of Columbia.

Hayti. Netherlands.

Population.

Nothing new can be reported under this head, in the absence of any provision for registering births and deaths.

The Census of 1861 gave :-

WHITES: Males, 7,295; Females, 6,521 = 13,816Males, 38,223; Females, 42,842 = 81,065 Blacks: Males, 167,277; Females, 179,097 = 346,374 Total 441,255

Supposing the population to have increased since 1861 only at the rate of increase established then upon the Census taken in 1844 (and probably it has been greatly in excess of that rate, as there has been no epidemic since 1861), the population of this Island now would exceed 460,000.

Savings Banks.

The progress of these institutions has been satisfactory. The following table shows the number of depositors and the amount of deposits for the last two years :-

	Banks.	Depositors.	Amount deposited.
1864	7 7	2,306 2,372	£ s. d. 49,460 13 5 55,945 13 4
	Increas	se	6,484 19 11

JAMAICA.

Immigration.

There were no immigrants introduced during this year; but there were 4,363 immigrant Coolies and Africans, under indentures, located on the estates in the several parishes.

Ecclesiastical.

The number of persons attending the churches of the several denominations is stated in the returns to have averaged 92,625, exclusive of the Baptists, who have made no returns of attendance this year. But no confidence can be placed in these figures.

Education.

The number attending schools is put down at 33,851, being 3,337 more than the

attendance in 1864.

There are several Sunday-school returns included in 1865 which were not included in the Blue Book of 1864. On the other hand, no returns for 1865 were received from several schools.

Circulation, Currency, &c.

The amount of coin in circulation has been estimated at 300,000l. But no confidence can be placed in this estimate.

The notes of the Colonial Bank in circulation averaged 76,936l. during the year.

Besides sovereigns and silver dollars, British silver coin at its nominal value is legal tender to any amount.

Accounts are kept in British sterling money. The weights and measures are the

same as those used in England.

The rates of exchange on England for bills at 90 days averaged $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium from January to August, and 2 per cent. premium from September to December.

There is now only one bank here, which has practically a monopoly of exchange and

banking operations.

Imports. 1,142,919 The imports for 1864 were 1865 1,050,984 91,935 Decrease £ Exports. 946,906 Total amount for 1864 912,004 1865 99 34,902 Decrease

Among the principal articles of export, the produce of the Colony, the following quantities were exported during the last two years :-

-	0	1864.	1865.
Sugar		- cwts. 522,498	483,681
Rum .		gals. 1,280,854	1,409,800
Coffee		lbs. 4,141,903	6,229,712
Pimento		7,686,337	3,861,510 27,064
Dye and	other Woods	- tons 29,594	27,001

Shipping. Arrived in the Colony.

	Year.		Year. Number of Vessels. Number of Tons.		Number of Men.	
	1864 - 1865 -	-	548 503	145,084 147,958	6,643 6,423	

Cleared Outwards.

Year.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
1864	542	138,585	6,734
1865	480	135,907	6,115

Agriculture.

JAMAICA.

The returns under this head are almost blank, agricultural statistics apparently never having been considered of value here, although it might have been supposed that in a purely agricultural country such as this some attempt would have been made to arrive at least at the average of the cultivated land.

The Island contains 4,080,000 acres. The number of sugar estates producing from 50 tons and upwards is about 300; and the coffee estates producing 10 tierces and upwards are 80 in number. There is beside a quantity of sugar, and more especially of coffee, which is considerable in the aggregate, cultivated by the peasantry on small plots of land. The number of stills for the manufacture of rum, in yearly quantities of 50 gallons and upwards, is about the same as that of sugar estates, viz., 300.

The distilleries have hitherto been confined to the sugar estates.

I regret to be obliged to report that the anticipations respecting the cultivation of cotton have not been realized. The experiment was tried on a somewhat large scale in three different districts of the Island, but it has not been successful, and the plantations have been abandoned.

There are four copper mines, and one silver-lead mine, which have been opened, but none of them are now worked. I am assured that if economically worked, by individuals, without the expensive apparatus of a company, some of these mines, at least, would be remunerative.

Gaols and Prisons.

In the report of the Inspector of Prisons for 1865, the number of prisoners on the 30th September 1865 was 1,456, being one prisoner for every 309 of the population.

There was an increase in the daily average of prisoners in 1865, over that of the year

1864, of 59 prisoners.

There was a small diminution of the crime of larceny, the total number committed being 99 less in 1865 than 1864.

There was an increase in the following more serious crimes over the year 1864:-

					-
Manslaughter			-		2
Rape and attemp	ot at rape				12
Forgery -	THE PROPERTY	4-1-10	-		6
Horse stealing ar	nd cattle st	ealing			4
Burglary -					24
And there was a decrease in the cris	mes of—				
Arson -					5
Offences against	nature	E CATEGORY			8
	TICHOLET C		-	-	O

Charitable Institutions.

The principal charitable institutions in the Colony are:—

The Public Hospital. The Lunatic Asylum.

The General and Marine Hospital, at Montego Bay.

The Falmouth Marine Hospital.

The Metcalfe Dispensary, in the city of Kingston.

The Church Almshouse, in Kingston. The Nurse Training Institution.

The St. George's Reformatory for Boys.

The Girls' Reformatory.

The Public Hospital and the Lunatic Asylum are the largest of these institutions,

and they are now admitted to be very well managed.

2,476 patients were treated in the hospital during the year. The daily average number of inmates was 190; the number of patients discharged was 2,014. Of these there were-

Cured -	_	1,201
Relieved -		675
Not relieved -		138
		2,014

254 deaths occurred, and 208 patients were in the hospital on the 31st December. The institution cost for the year 7,802l. 15s. 5d. 18090.

JAMATCA.

292 persons were treated in the Lunatic Asylum, the daily average being 203; 33 were discharged, 56 died, and there were 203 patients in the asylum on the 31st December.

The institution cost this year 4,813l. 9s. 1d.

In the General and Marine Hospital, Montego Bay, 77 persons were treated; 72 were discharged cured or relieved, and 5 died. The cost of this institution was 578l. 5s. 5d.

58 patients were treated in the Falmouth Hospital; 54 were discharged cured, 2 relieved, and 2 died. This institution cost 458l. 10s. 41d.

In the Nurse Training and Lying-in Institution 98 patients were treated; of these, there were admitted :--

Ordinary patients -For surgical operation -Medical treatment -3 98

Of these there died-Women, 4; Infants, 4.

Two nurses obtained certificates, and two remained under training.

The admissions to the Boys' Reformatory were:-Criminals 37 Orphans -75

During the same period there were discharged, 22; died, 6; apprenticed, 43.

Of the 43 apprenticed, 37 were sent out as agriculturists, 2 as carpenters, 1 as a shipwright, 2 as coach trimmers, and 1 as a domestic servant; 150 boys were remaining in the Reformatory on the 31st December.

The Girls' Reformatory received 24 inmates during the year; 17 were discharged, 3 died during the same period. The number of inmates at the end of the year was 90.

The total cost to the revenues of all the charitable institutions and of the support of the poor in the several parishes, where a system of out-door relief generally prevails, was 46,334l. 9s. 3d., being 2,416l. 3s. 11d. in excess of the expenditure for 1864.

The revenue returns and loan accounts in the Blue Book are made up to the 30th of September 1865, the end of the financial year, and they are not therefore to be taken as representing the actual financial state of the Colony on the 31st of December.

A deplorable event which occurred in the last quarter of the year, though it will not

permanently affect the revenue, will add to the Island debt.

On the 11th of October 1865 a body of insurgents, which had been organized at a place called Stony Gut, four miles off, suddenly marched into the town of Morant Bay, and attacked the Court House, in which the magistrates were sitting at the time. The Court House and an adjoining school-house were burnt down; the police station was stormed and plundered; the district prison was broken open, and the prisoners were released; and 18 peaceful colonists were massacred. From Morant Bay bodies of the insurgents moved about the adjacent country, and some serious outrages were committed before they could be dispersed. Martial law was immediately proclaimed by Mr. Eyre, then Governor, over the whole county of Surry, exclusive of Kingston; and by the rapid and well-conducted operations of the troops, under the immediate command of Colonel Nelson, assisted by gunboats of the navy and their crews, the disturbance was happily confined to the eastern extremity of the county of Surry. The movement was put down, and life and property were again secure, in about a week's time from the first outbreak.

These lamentable occurrences, and the measures taken for the suppression of the outbreak, and for the punishment of those concerned, have formed the subject of a thorough and searching inquiry by a Royal Commission, sent out from England to investigate the whole matter; and the full report of that Commission, which has been approved by Her Majesty's Government, makes it unnecessary for me to say more on

this subject.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. Peter Grant, K.C.B., to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 4.) My Lord,

King's House, Jamaica, October 23, 1866.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the enclosed Despatch from the No. 51, 21 July Lieutenant-Governor of Honduras, forwarding the Blue Book for 1865.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

&c. &c. &c.

Lieutenant-Governor Austin to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B. (No. 51.)

SIR, Government House, Belize, July 21, 1866. I have the honour to enclose the Blue Book of British Honduras for the year 1865, and to report thereon as follows:-

Taxes—Duties and Fees.

2. Under this head the following changes took effect on the 1st of September :-Malt liquors and cider, per imperial gallon, increased from 121 cents to 25 cents. Spirits and cordials, per imperial gallon, increased from 50 cents to 75 cents. Wines, per imperial gallon, increased from 25 cents to $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Unenumerated articles increased from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Manufactured tobacco, other than cigars, per 100 lbs., increased from \$3 to \$4 50 cents.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The following is a statement, as taken from previous reports, of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last 10 years, but the comparative expenditure therein exhibited is not to be relied upon, as 2,600l. were expended under a Loan Act for the erection of a bridge in 1861; and payments to the extent of 15,7821. have been made in 1863 and 1864 under the South of Belize Improvement Loan Act, although the expenditure for the respective years has apparently been no way increased thereby.

				Revenue.	Expenditure
				£	£
1856				22,623	26,236
1857	-11-10	11.0		25,129	26,469
1858		- 3 -	- 4	27,848	24,127
1859			-	27,982	25,778
1860	1			32,575	30,270
1861		-	-	35,757	28,897
1862	A 2000		70	27,294	32,175
1863		No Vent	-	35,549	28,641
1864	-			31,544	28,364
1865				26,529	35,614

The revenue of 1865 was aided by a balance of 10,087l. on hand on the 31st December 1864, and the expenditure was burthened with the payment of 1,212l. for interest of the South of Belize loan of 1863, and 1,105l. for the lighthouse ordered in the beginning of 1864.

Local Revenues.

4. There are no local revenues, and but little prospect of any for some time to come, as although the Belizeans, with whom the representation of the whole Colony rests, are quite willing to impose local taxes, both north and south, commensurate with the purely local charges in each thereof, they are in no way disposed to assent to an application of the same principle to themselves.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Public Debt.

5. The debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1865 was 28,239l. 4s., of which 19,800l. were raised under the Act of 1863 for the improvement of the South of Belize, and 8,439l. 4s. under the Act of 1864 for the introduction of immigrants.

Both debts will be considerably reduced on the 31st December 1866 by the proceeds of an import duty of one per cent. especially pledged for the South of Belize loan, and by repayment of one fifth of the cost of the introduction of the Chinese, per "Light of the Age," by the employers, and the general revenue of the Colony.

Militia.

6. The Colony is without a militia law, and there is very great difficulty in dealing with the question, as four fifths of the population are Yucatecan refugees, Indians, or Caribs, and the remainder, with the exception of the inhabitants of Belize, are too much scattered to be available at any point within a reasonable time.

I had at one time very high expectations from the Belize volunteers, but the depressed state of trade has caused so many to leave town for employment at the mahogany works

or sugar estates, that the force has been reduced almost to nil.

Public Works.

7. The only public work commenced during the past year has been the erection of a lighthouse at Maugre Kaye, but its completion has been delayed in consequence of the desire of the Assembly to postpone any heavy payments.

Legislation.

- 8. The 29 Acts passed during the two Sessions of 1865 may be classified as follows:—
 - 6 for the Collection and Appropriation of Revenue.

2 repealing Acts.

13 for the Revision of Laws, and improvements in administration thereof.

1 for the Introduction of Immigrants.

2 for the Defence of the Colony by Sea and Land.

2 for Improvements in the Town of Belize.

1, the annual Deportation Act.

1, the extension of the practice of Vaccination.

1, the legalization of preferable Liens on growing and future Crops.

Political Franchise—Council and Assembly.

9. The electors have been increased by registration since last year from 184 to 259, but as nearly all are resident in Belize, and by far the greater portion are only locally interested as petty traders, journeymen, or labourers, the elections have exhibited such results as could only have been anticipated, viz., the return of members generally averse to any improvements save for Belize, and to a great extent incapable of forming correct opinions on matters of general public importance. The only change in the Council during the year 1865 was caused by the appointment of Mr. Mathew to the office of Colonial Secretary.

Civil Establishment.

10. In the Civil Establishment there were several changes of considerable importance, viz., the appointment for the first time of officers for the Vice-Admiralty Court, for the Immigration Department, and for the discharge of magisterial duties at Orange Walk in the northern district, and at "All Pines" in the south. A public medical officer has also been appointed for the first time to the northern district.

Population.

11. The Census returns of 1861 give 13,789 males and 11,846 females, but there is little doubt that since that period the increase has been very considerable, not only from natural causes, but also from the introduction of very many agriculturalists, mechanics, and labourers from the Southern States of America and Jamaica, and 603 labourers from China and Barbados.

Ecclesiastical and Educational.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

12. There are no changes under this head, and I see little prospect of any until increased wealth, as arising from agricultural operations, and increased influence on the elections by the planters, will admit of heavier taxation, and secure a more just distribution of the public funds between town and country.

Imports and Exports.

13. The Imports and Exports during the past ten years are as follows:--

			Imports.	Exports.
			£	£
1856 -		-	254,994	446,649
1857 -		-	268,692	440,272
1858 -		-	207,908	380,378
1859 -		-	175,293	288,101
1860 -		-	200,869	315,918
1861 -		-	231,744	292,576
1862 -		-	211,357	356,389
1863 -	To	-	265,751	390,643
1864 -	1		291,144	373,197
1865 -	-	-	210,675	323,169

The following are the Imports and Exports in 1864 and 1865, from and to each country with which trade has been carried on:—

			1	imports from	Exports to
				£	£
United Kingdom		J 1864	-	196,372	218,130
Onited Ringdom		1865	-	130,426	220,076
Jamaica -		$\int 1864$	-	1,446	Nil.
o amarca		1865	-	1,877	720
United States		∫ 1864	-	81,598	37,209
O miletr States		1865	-	64,209	34,053
Mexico -		J 1864	-	260	21,864
Menteo	- 70	1865	-	Nil.	3,445
Yucatan		_ S 1864	-	5,334	33,682
		1865	*	2,892	26,312
Spanish Honduras,			-	6,132	62,309
and other Country	ries -	- 1865	-	11,268	38,562

There is little doubt that the American civil war gave the Colony a considerable increase of transit trade, as well in imports as exports, as also that the small supply of Mexican mahogany in consequence of disturbances in that country, and the absence in the markets of cedar and pitch pine from the Southern States, gave to the woods of British Honduras a great temporary advantage. All this is now at an end, however, and the future of the Colony must rest chiefly on the productive industry of its inhabitants in the field of agriculture, especially as goods are now being shipped direct to Truxillo and Wanks River from Liverpool, which formerly passed through the Port of Belize.

Agriculture.

14. The advance under this head has not been as satisfactory as might have been anticipated from the importations of labour from China, Jamaica, and Barbados, but it is easily accounted for in the absence of all knowledge of sugar cultivation on the part of those originating the movement, and their unfortunate trustfulness in persons but little qualified to aid them. In spite, however, of these delays and losses, there is a steady, persistent advance, indicating a determination to establish the cultivation of sugar on a sound basis, and thus, although the pioneers may not reap all the reward they deserve, the Colony will profit much from their example and outlay of capital.

Colony will profit much from their example and outlay of capital.

At "All Pines" in the south, where a steam saw-mill was erected by the Guatemala Company very large operations are in progress, and there is little doubt from what I have myself witnessed that there will be sufficient cane cultivation in 1867 to give from two

to three hundred tons of sugar.

14

BRITISH HONDURAS,

Already 500 acres have been cleared, and are in part planted with rice, tobacco. plantains, and sugar, and as engine and mill are both on the spot there is every reasonable prospect of a remunerative crop in the course of next year.

The North, too, is not behind in the spirit of enterprise, and its importations of machinery

have been as follows: - An Ericsson's engine, with cotton gins and press; a sugar mill and steam-engine; an 18-horse engine, with sugar mill, clarifiers, pans, &c.; a rice mill; patent ploughs and cane waggons.

Grants of Land.

15. The sales of land during the year have only yielded 109l., but the Crown fund has been maintained by 4471, otherwise realized from rents and miscellaneous sources of revenue.

Gaols and Prisons.

16. There is but one gaol in the Colony, viz., at Belize, although the magistrate can authorize the detention of prisoners at the lock-up stations in the country for sentences

not in excess of 30 days.

For the Belize gaol the greatest number of prisoners at any one time of the year was 93, against 91 in 1864, but I am unable to report on the Colony generally, in consequence of the absence of any returns from the lock-up stations, and my inability, with the present deranged postal service to detain the Blue Book any longer, delayed as its transmission has already been by the long sickness and death of the Colonial Secretary.

Charitable Institutions.

17. These reflect no great credit on the Colony, as the poor-house is a ruin, the lunatic asylum unfit for the purposes to which it is devoted, and the hospital too small. Several attempts have been made to remove the paupers from their present inconvenient location in the gaol yard, and 500l. were actually expended in 1862 on the foundation of a new poor-house on a better site, but the House of Assembly interfered on that occasion, and has not since placed funds at the disposal of the Executive, by means of which a fit abode for the paupers could be erected.

General.

18. The health of the Colony generally has been remarkably good throughout the year, although during the early part severe mortality occurred amongst the Chinese and Barbadian emigrants at the head of the New River.

So strong is the impression of such healthiness amongst the planters in the Southern States of America-impressions derived from the long experience of their countrymen in British Honduras—that several are at present in the Colony seeking to secure future

homes for themselves and their families.

Upon their decisions rest to a great degree the future advancement of British Honduras, as the Spanish population is too inert, and the Creoles are too few and unenergetic to grapple with the difficulties which necessarily attend a state of transition from mahogany cutting to the cultivation of sugar, corn, tobacco, and rice.

I have, &c. His Excellency the Governor in Chief, (Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN. Jamaica.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 46.)

SIR,

forwarding the Turks Islands Blue Book for the year 1865.

King's House, Jamaica, July 7, 1866. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Despatch from President Moir,

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c.

I have, &c. H. K. STORKS. (Signed)

No. 49, of 7 June 1866.

(No. 49.)

Government House, Grand Turk, June 7, 1866.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

SIR. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Turks Islands Blue Book for 1865, prepared, I have reason to believe, with greater care and accuracy than on any previous occasion.

2. The taxes and other sources of revenue continue unchanged from those of former years, and the import and export duties imposed under Ordinances No. 20 of 1860 and No. 10 of 1862 were last year continued in force, by Ordinance No. 9 of 1865, to the month of January 1869.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3.	The	receipts	from	general	revenue	for	1865	Word
U.	THE	receibra	HOIII	general	revenue	101	1000	were-

			£	S.	d.			
Imports		-	4,955					
Exports		-	2,606	19	4			
Other sources -	-	•	2,403	1	10			
			9,965	6	6			
The balance from 1864	-	-	2,599	11	$1\frac{3}{4}$			
			12,564	17	73		-	
The expenditure -		-	9,141	3	11			
Leaving a balance of	-		3,423	13	834	in	the	treasury
ary 1866.			affacts.	-				

on the 1st of Janua

Local Revenue.

4. The receipts under the head of Crown Funds proved larger than the estimate, the latter having been put down at 2,455l. 18s. 9d., while the former realized 2,812l. 9s. 2d., derived thus :-

10 per cent. on salt exported					£ 2,763	s. 7	d. 7	
Sales of Crown land -				-	9	8	1	
Rent of ditto				-	10	0	Ô	
Sale of water	•		1.12		29	13	6	
					2,812	9	2	
Balance from 1864 -			-	-	487	8	10	
					3,299	18	0	
The expenditure for piers was		- £300	0 0		1 30			
On account of gaol -		- 135	0 0					
Repairs		- 703	12 111					
Roads		- 158	$15 \ 4\frac{1}{5}$					
Water tanks and wells -	-	- 48						
Miscellaneous	- 4	- 532						
					1,878	5	11	
Leaving a balance of -			-		1,421	12	1	in

the Crown chest on the 1st of January 1866.

5. The year 1865 afforded me the first complete financial period upon which to calculate whether or not the salt pond freehold tenure would, under that system, yield a sufficient revenue to the Crown, while conferring an equitable distribution of the assumed burthen on the new proprietors. Of the latter fact there can be no doubt; and, although it is said the salt taker has ever been loth to acknowledge any benefit, yet he has not had it in his power to escape from the confession, that the plan of collecting a uniform charge of ten per cent. on the value of salt, only when exported, is a great relief, and much superior to the former one of charging a rental—sometimes excessive, sometimes ridiculously small—for salt ponds, the lessee of which might ship little or no salt in the course of the year. And with respect to the revenue now collected under that system, it has realized within about four pounds of the sum I estimated it would, when reporting on this subject to his Grace the late Duke of Newcastle in my Despatch, No. 1, of 15th November 1862.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 6. From these two branches of revenue—the general revenue and the Crown funds—the following amounts have been collected in this Colony since these islands were separated from the Bahama Government; viz.:—

Ye	ar.	1	General Revenue.	Crown Fund.	Total.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1849	-	-	8,441 3 2	3,743 9 8	12,184 12 10
1850	-	-	5,876 16 6	3,721 19 4	9,598 15 10
1851		-	5,925 18 2	3,280 16 8	9,206 14 11
1852	- 4		6,712 13 10	3,792 11 10	10,505 5 8
1853	-	-	5,772 13 9	3,564 5 7	9,336 19 4
1854		-	6,677 19 4	3,642 0 2	10,319 19 6
1855			5,774 16 9	3,628 13 7	9,403 10 4
1856		-	5,706 7 6	3,482 6 7	9,188 14 1
1857		-	5,938 19 2	3,527 7 9	9,466 6 11
1858	-	-	8,003 17 5	3,638 12 7	9,642 10 0
1859	-	-	7,418 17 1	3,647 13 1	11,066 10 2
1860	-		7,486 14 9	3,994 9 11	11,481 4 8
1861	-	-	6,604 11 2	3,150 16 10	9,755 8 0
1862		-	8,070 14 4	5,219 18 3	13,290 12 7
1863	-		8,730 16 7	2,668 19 10	11,399 16 5
1864	-	-	9,990 10 2	2,931 1 8	12,921 11 10
1865	-	-	9,995 6 6	2,812 9 2	12,777 15 8

Public Debt.

7. The last payment, made in January 1865, on account of the public debt, was a sum of 2l. 1s. 11d. for interest on debentures held for 17 days over the close of the year 1864. The proportion of the Bahama debt assigned to this Government on its separation from that Colony on the 25th December 1848, and the several payments made in liquidation, were as follows:—

Proportion of	of Bahama	debt assig	ned	to th	he Tu	ırks	and Cai	cos	£	s.	d.
Islands in		-	10.					-	8,000	0	0
Paid on acco	unt in 1849	, includir	ig int	eres	st, fre	ight	, &c.	-	2,410	11	0
Do.	do. 1850)	do.			do.	-		2,281	7	11
Do.	do. 1851		do.		(lo.	-	-	778	4	$5\frac{1}{2}$
Do.	do. 1852		do.			do.	- "		898	3	1
Do.	do. 1853		do.		(lo.			954	12	6
Paid interest		, 1854	-		-		•		91	18	4
Do.	do.	1855			-				91	18	4
Do.	do.	1856			-		•		91	18	4
Do.	do.	1857		-					91	18	4
Do.	do.	1858	-		-	-		9	91	18	4
Paid on acco			terest		-		- 4	-	1,025	15	3
Paid interest							-	-	45	0	0
Do.	do.	1861		-	-				45	0	0
Do.	do.	1862		-		-		•	45	0	0
Do.	do.	1863						-	45	0	0
Paid balance				-		-	•	-	945	0	0
Paid interest	for 17 day	s in 1865		-	-				2	1	11
									9,935	7	$9\frac{1}{2}$

At the close of the year 1863 the whole assigned debt of 8,000*l*., with interest, was fully paid to the Bahama Government, by raising the balance then due, consisting of 1,838*l*. 6s. 8d., by means of debentures issued to residents within this Colony, which were gradually retired, as shown in the foregoing statement.

Public Works.

8. The Annual Report by the Colonial Surveyor and Inspector of Public Works, which I have the honour to annex, affords full information as to those undertakings which have been accomplished during the year 1865, as well as to those now being constructed, or recommended for the future. The stonework of the new gaol has been contracted

for, and so soon as the contractor returns from America, where he is about shortly to proceed to obtain some necessary machinery, this work will be vigorously pressed to AND CAICOS completion.

TURKS ISLANDS.

Legislation.

9. Eleven Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, all of which, with the exception of one, to which some modification was suggested, have been graciously assented to by Her Majesty. Among these, that establishing the money order system, thereby conferring a great boon on a Colony where the total absence of banks and a commissariat chest rendered it most difficult to make remittances to any other place than to the United States of America—that for the better protection of property from fire that for granting a superannuation allowance to persons holding civil appointments in the public service of the Colony-and that continuing the existing revenue laws till 1869, were the most important.

Education.

10. Some interesting details have this year been furnished by the Inspector and Head Master of the Public Schools in his annual report, a copy of which I herewith transmit; but the whole system of tuition demands a thorough revision. There appears to be a want, almost a total absence, of heart from top to bottom in teacher and taught. Hitherto, a spirit of laisser faire, if not of absolute indifference, has made the periodical meetings of the Board of Education and Public Examinations an absolute drag on my time and efforts for improvement; but I am rejoiced to say I have recently been encouraged by hope of a better state of affairs for the future. We have now been blessed by the arrival among us of a clergyman who has already entered with energy and ability on his duties of religious, moral, and social improvement, and who, from long experience and practical application of the best method in imparting instruction, is eminently fitted to guide and assist me in inaugurating an efficient course of education, which may, ere long, reform and improve the indifferent method at present pursued in our public schools. I therefore look forward, with a certain amount of confidence, to more satisfactory reports on this important subject accompanying the Blue Book returns in time to come.

Imports and Exports.

11. A comparative return of the value of imports and exports for the years 1864 and 1865 furnishes the following results:-

				IMPO	ORTS.		
	1864.		1865.		Increase.		Decrease.
	£	s. d.	£s	7	0	,	
United Kingdom -		8 0	9.00	. d.	£ s.	d.	£ s. d
British North America		0 6	12,961 2 332 2	2 11	00.10		456 5 8
British West Indies -		1 11				3	9 15 10
Africa	- 211 1		5,485 2	3	1,202 18	0	1,318 17 8
Foreign West Indies	23,978 13		20 -05 -		10.00		211 19 3
United States			30,785 7			2	5,280 14. 4
Elsewhere	- 26,725		30,720	1	3,994 19	6	
Derelict		7 10	000				12 7 10
Derenct	- 13	7 2	266 2	1	252 14 1	1	-
Total -	- 70,207 19	9 5	80,549 17	8	17,631 18 1	0	7,290 0 7
				Expo	ORTS.		
United Kingdom -	- 1,627 18	3 10	2,547 2	2 10	919 4	0	
British North America	- 2,482		1,627	1		2	1,471 7 5
British West Indies -	- 4,462 19		1,676 8			2	1,471 7 5 3,276 19 6
Africa			1,010		130 /	4	5,210 19 6
Foreign West Indies	- 14,389 19	9 1	19,309 14	2	7,393 8	0	0.479 10 11
United States	- 30,953		36,790 15	9		1	2,473 12 11
Elsewhere	- 154		52 8		0,001 14	1	101 10 5
Derelict	-	il e	- OZ	3			101 19 5
Total -	- 54,070 18	5 3	62.003 18	5	15,257 1	5	7,323 18 3

18090.

18

PORTS.

Grand Turk

West Caicos

Cockburn Harbour

Total

Salt Cay

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. Exhibiting a total increase in the value of imports of 10,341l. 18s. 3d., and of exports of 7,933l. 3s. 2d. for the year 1865 as compared with the year 1864. But as the consumption of imports in the Colony has remained nearly stationary, the overplus has found its way towards the supply of neighbouring markets.

12. I also submit statements of the value and duties paid on imports and exports at the several ports in the Colony, of the tonnage inwards and outwards, and of the quantity and value of the staple export for the said financial periods:—

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Value of and Duties paid upon Imports into and Exports from the Turks and Caicos Islands for the Years ended 31st December 1864 and 1865, respectively; together with the Number of Vessels, Amount of Tonnage, and Number of Men, Inwards and Outwards, for the same Period.

IMPORTS.

1864.

INWARDS.

2,431

472

222

3,160

35

30,976

11,879

6,216

49,164

93

388

82

37

513

6

1,179 0 6

984 10 0

443 8 10

2,606 19 4

FORTS.				Tritalis.				
		Value.	Duties.	No.	Tons.	Men.		
	T. (2 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -	c	£ s. d.			1127		
	1.	£ s. d.		327	30,495	1,875		
Grand Turk -		68,063 6 4		46				
Salt Cay		1,739 1 4	144 10 7		9,245	320		
Cockburn Harbour		375 12 7	53 10 0	30	4,958	212		
West Caicos -		21 0 0	2 9 7	11	147	62		
Total		70,199 0 3	5,243 7 6	414	44,845	2,469		
No see XV			1865.					
						1		
Grand Turk -		76,812 16 0	4,700 19 3	381	37,304	2,357		
Salt Cay		3,649 1 7	247 4 2	51	7,769	299		
Cockburn Harbour		88 0 1	7 1 11	18	2,366	120		
Cockburn Harbour		00 0 1		6	93	35		
West Caises	-					11 14		
					at are in	0.011		
West Caicos Total		80,549 17 8	4,955 5 4	456	47,530	2,811		
		80,549 17 8	1864.	456	47,530	2,811		
West Caicos Total Ports.		80,549 17 8 Expo	1864.	456	47,530 Outwards.	2,811		
Total			1864.	456 No.		2,811 Men.		
Total		Expo	1864. RTS. Duties.		Outwards.			
Total Ports.		Value. £ s. d.	1864. Duties. £ s. d.	No.	OUTWARDS. Tons.	Men.		
Total PORTS.		Expo. Value. £ s. d. 40,393 2 4	1864. Duties. £ s. d. 1,417 16 1	No. 339	OUTWARDS. Tons.	Men. 2,427		
Total Ports. Grand Turk Salt Cay		Expo Value. £ s. d. 40,393 2 4 8,363 10 9	1864. Duties. £ s. d. 1,417 16 1 739 14 4	No. 339 63	OUTWARDS. Tons. 39,230 10,969	Men. 2,427		
Total		Expo. Value. £ s. d. 40,393 2 4	1864. Duties. £ s. d. 1,417 16 1	No. 339	OUTWARDS. Tons.			

47,338 11

62,003 18

10,168

4,497

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

Turks

19

A COMPARATIVE RETURN showing the Difference in the Shipping Inwards and Outwards for the Years 1864 and 1865.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

INWARDS.

	111-11		BRITISH.			Foreign.		TOTAL					
		No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.			
1864		288	24,910	1,643	126	19,935	826	414	44,845	2,469			
1865		346	26,471	2,040	110	21,061	771	456	47,532	2,811			
		58	1,561	397	16	1,126	55 -	42	2,687	342			

This return shows,—

1. Of British vessels, their tonnage and crew, an increase in 1865 of 58 vessels, 1,561 tons, 397 men.

2. Of Foreign vessels, a decrease of 16 vessels and 55 men, but an increase of 1,126 tons.

3. A total increase of 42 vessels, 2,687 tons, 342 men.

OUTWARDS.

		BRITISH.			FOREIGN.		Total.				
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.		
1864	325	35,782	2,331	130	20,908	856	455	56,690	3,187		
1865	400	27,433	2,439	113	21,731	721	513	49,164	3,160		
	75	8,349	108	17	823	135	58	7,526	27		

This return shows,-

 Of British vessels cleared outwards in 1865, an increase of 75 vessels and 108 men, but a decrease of 8.349 tons.

2. Of Foreign vessels, a decrease of 17 vessels, an increase of 823 tons, but a decrease of 135 men.

3. A total increase of 58 vessels, but a decrease of 7,526 tons and 27 men.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the QUANTITIES (in Bushels) and Value of Salt exported from the Turks and Caicos Islands for the Years ended 31st December 1864 and 1865 respectively.

		Val	18	64.	18	365.
			Bushels of Salt.	Value.	Bushels of Salt.	Value.
Grand Turk - Salt Cay - Cockburn Harbour West Caicos -	41		680,546 355,064 216,576	£ s. d. 16,070 7 1 8,341 10 10 5,314 2 2	565,932 472,560 212,852	£ s. d. 12,425 14 3 9,918 2 2 4,497 4 6
	Total	-	1,252,186	29,726 0 1	1,251,344	26,841 0 11

13. These returns evince a healthy state of commercial affairs, and the slowly increasing importance of this little Colony, owing, principally, to its admirable geographical position, in the facilities it affords to neighbouring islands as a safe and convenient depôt for English and American articles of commerce; and could I be so fortunate as to succeed in impressing Her Majesty's Government, or a company of private individuals, with the unappreciated advantages which this Island possesses in the "North Creek"—a large sheet of land-locked water, opening under the lighthouse to the sea, convertible into docks for the largest ships—I doubt not that it would eventually be as valuable to the commerce of Leeward as the foreign island of St. Thomas now is to the Windward Islands and countries in this hemisphere, and above all most important to Her Majesty's navy both now and hereafter.

14. The pre-eminent advantage which this Island possesses over all others in the West Indies is its, I may say, invariable healthiness, which ought alone to recommend this project as one worthy at least of examination and mature consideration.

Turks and Caicos Islands. 15. Between sunrise and sunset during last year 464 vessels navigated the Turks Islands passage, comprising 20 steamers, 5 ships, 94 barques, 233 brigs, and 113 schooners, and in all probability upwards of 200 more passed the lighthouse during the hours of darkness. From commanders of vessels of war and masters of merchantmen I have invariably heard commendation of the light on this Island, and from visits which I personally make, from time to time, I can testify that all the necessary apparatus is kept in a most efficient and orderly manner.

Population.

16. The population of these Islands is not affected much by either immigration or emigration, but from the Registrar's returns, the correctness of which I have no reason to doubt, the large proportion of births over deaths speaks well for the healthiness of our climate. These returns show that during the year 1865 there were 34 marriages, 186 births, and 82 deaths, in a population which in the census of 1861 numbered 4,372 souls. With respect to the condition of this population in a moral and religious point of view, I append the following information gathered from the Registrar's returns:—

RETURN of the Number of Births registered in the Colony of the Turks and Caicos Islands during the Years 1864 and 1865, distinguishing those Legitimate from Illegitimate.

		1864.								1865.								
District.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.			Total.		Legitimate.		Illegitimate.			Total.					
	м.	F.	Total.	м.	F.	Total.	М.	F.	Total.	м.	F.	Total.	м.	F.	Total.	М.	F.	Total.
Grand Turk - Salt Cay - Caicos -	30 11 20	24 7 31	54 18 51	14 3 9	13 6 14	27 9 23	44 14 29	37 13 45	81 27 74	29 12 4	38 9 6	67 21 10	9 7 4	10 3 6	19 10 10	38 19 38	48 12 31	86 31 69
Grand Totals	61	62	123	26	33	59	87	95	182	75	72	147	20	19	39	95	91	186

Gaols and Prisoners.

17. There was no crime of a serious nature brought before the police court, and for successive sessions of the Supreme Court there was nothing to lay before a jury. For several months past the number of prisoners in the gaol has been small, never, I believe, over six at one time, and sometimes as low as one. I find, however, from some statistics which have been furnished by the acting police magistrate, that there was an increase in 1865, over those committed in 1864, of the following offences,—assaults, quarrelling and disturbing the peace, larceny, profane and obscene language, drunkenness, and abusive language, and that these offences were committed by about 150 of the lowest class of the people, who, from their frequently being charged at the police office, contribute to largely swell the number of convictions. Other offences have been much the same as in 1864, and there has been an increase in the summonses for petty debts.

From these returns I also gather that during the year 1864 were committed 224 offences, and in 1865 267 offences, by 211 individuals. Of these persons 61 were convicted during both years of no less than 245 offences, and the remaining 150 individuals committed 246 offences during the same periods; and last year—

84 persons were convicted once, 31 14 three times, ,, four 11 ,, 2 five ,, 29 3 six " 99 seven

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

18. The poor's-house continues a useful and well-regulated institution, and is a refuge for only very aged and destitute people. Since the arrival of the Reverend Mr. Dillon constant and affectionate spiritual instruction is imparted to them, and their declining years are rendered as comfortable as the nature of the institution can admit of.

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19. The public library is fairly supported, and, with the grant-in-aid from the TURKS Government, has been, I think, instrumental of much good, and of healthy mental AND CALCOS

recreation to old and young among the subscribers.

20. In conclusion, I look forward with hopefulness to the future. Zealous and pious clergymen, both of the Church of England and connected with the Wesleyan body, are now here, who are exerting their influence, and their ability in teaching, over this community. Church and week-day services were never before so well attended; a spirit of teachableness and inquiry has been awakened, and the lapse of time will show what fruit such blossoms may produce.

> I have, &c. ALEX. W. MOIR, (Signed) President.

His Excellency the Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Sub-Enel. 1 in No. 3.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Colonial Surveyor's Office, Grand Turk, SIR. 28th March 1866.

In conformity with the requirements of Ordinance No. 11 of 1862, I have now the honour to submit my report upon the public works completed during the year 1865; also of the works now in progress, and those contemplated for the year 1866.

PUBLIC WORKS COMPLETED.

Painting and repairing Government House.

This expenditure was estimated for in the Crown Funds estimate, and undertaken in January 1865. The buildings being of wood (and not having been painted for a period of nine years), the exterior was much dilapidated, and necessarily required a larger expenditure than they otherwise would. For the further protection and preservation of these buildings it will be necessary, very shortly, to renew the painting on Government House; and as the quality of paint imported is generally of an ordinary or inferior kind—that used on Government House being the best which could be procured here—and as it evidently does not seem either to protect the wood or preserve its colour, I would suggest that a better description be ordered by the Government from England for the purpose of painting all public

Saint Thomas' Church.

Since my last report of the 2d May 1865 the expenditure upon the church has been 1751. 9s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. in repairing and limewashing exterior and enclosure walls, painting windows, doors, and belfry, replastering interior walls, painting ceiling, galleries, &c., and in constructing a robing room. It was also found necessary to repew the church, at an expenditure of 192l. 4s. 5d., which amount has been nearly refunded to the Colonial Government by the sale of pews, which took place in December last, realizing the sum of 163l. 17s.

The improved and neat appearance of the interior of the church, the easy style of pews, and the additional accommodation afforded, has secured, to the congregation a degree of comfort long much

Repairs to other Buildings.

Under this head there has been expended a comparatively small amount for repairs to the various public buildings-gaol, poor's-house, and hospital, armoury, schools-and in fitting up a building as a lock-up at Cockburn Harbour.

Roads.

The expenditure under this head, amounting to 158l. 15s. 3d., has been for the general repairs of the public roads at Grand Turk and Salt Cay, also for coating with coal tar the iron connected with the railroad at West Caicos. A good and substantial road of nearly 300 yards, leading to Saint Thomas' Church, has also been undertaken and completed during the present year.

Public Wells.

The exposed state of the cattle wells at Grand Turk have heretofore entailed an annual expenditure for cleaning and removing the mud and dirt washed into them from the surrounding land; this has been, in a great measure, obviated by enclosing them with a strone curbing of stone, at a cost of 46l. 16s.

Public Wharf.

In consequence of the rapid destruction, by marine insects, of the wooden piles supporting the wharf, it was found necessary to erect in their stead stone pillars, at a cost of 74l. 11s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. I regret to say that nearly the whole of these pillars have been destroyed by the heavy sea which occurred here 22

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

during the severe storm in October last. This wharf being of general utility as a landing-place for passengers and their baggage, can also be made available for the landing and shipment of goods. I would therefore recommend that instead of stone or iron pillars, strong and permanent retaining walls of masonry be built and carried out to the termination of the bar or coral reef, and to be filled in between the retaining walls with loose stone and rubble. The outer part, being in deep water, to be supported with cast-iron piles, forming a jetty for the landing and shipment of cargoes.

WORKS IN PROGRESS.

Saint John's Church.

It having been found necessary to raise the enclosure walls to this church, it was commenced during the last year, and a sum of 36l. 8s. expended. The work is being continued in a faithful and substantial although very dilatory manner, and the cost will be considerable before completion.

Hospital.

The want of a suitable place as a quarantine hospital having been long felt, the buildings and premises formerly used as a whaling establishment being offered for sale were purchased by the Government, and a contract entered into for placing them in a state of thorough repair.

From the isolated position of these buildings, being situated at the extreme south end of the island, near the Hawk's Nest Anchorage, they may be considered as the best adapted for the purposes of a hospital, either as a quarantine station, or for the reception of the sick in case of an epidemic visiting these islands.

Dwelling for Lighthouse Keepers.

The iron building ordered from England, intended as a dwelling for the keepers of the lighthouse, having arrived, the foundation is now being prepared with a view to its being erected with as little

delay as possible.

The invoice of the building with all the material and fittings, delivered on board ship in the docks at Liverpool, was 382l. 19s. 5d., including insurance and charges. The cost of the dwelling was estimated at 450l., but the high rate of freight from England, together with other charges of landing, carriage to lighthouse, and expense of erecting, will probably increase the amount of cost to about 550l., being 100l in exacts of estimate. 1001. in excess of estimate.

New Gaol.

The present goal being found inadequate for the purpose of carrying into effect proper prison discipline, and the health of the prisoners confined there being reported as affected by the locality of the building, it has been considered essential that a new gaol should be erected with as little delay as practicable. To facilitate the construction of a new building, and as a means of securing stone of a superior quality ready at hard to commence the work, it was considered advisable (as a preparatory measure) to enter into contract with a party to quarry and supply a number of stone for this purpose, and upon which a sum amounting to 135*L* has been disbursed.

The Government having recently advertised for tenders for the construction of the sum amounting to 135*L* has been disbursed.

The Government having recently advertised for tenders for the construction of the stone work of the new gaol, and his Honour the President having been kindly furnished by the Secretary of State with a plan of a building suited to this climate, the work will be proceeded with in accordance thereto, at as

early a date as possible.

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS.

At Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour.

To meet the provision of an Ordinance which passed the Legislative Council, for enclosing the several burial-grounds in the Colony, it was decided by the Executive to import from England a sufficient quantity of Francis Morton & Co.'s, "patent galvanized wire fencing" for enclosing three burial-grounds (two at Salt Cay and one at Cockburn Harbour), which have been completed during the present year.

The average cost of the two enclosures at Salt Cay will amount to the sum of 143*l*. 1s. 8d., and that at Cockburn Harbour to 68*l*. 12s. 5d., making in the whole 211*l*. 14s. 1d. expended on this work. This system of enclosure is very neat, and is said to be durable, and I am led to believe will answer

all the requisite purposes of a more expensive enclosure of stone.

Office for Assistant Receiver General and Police Magistrate.

The building known as the "School House," at Salt Cay, having become vacant from its inadaptation for the purposes of a school, and the situation being in a central position, an agreement has been entered into for placing it in a state of thorough repair, and for making certain alterations with a view to its being in future occupied and used as offices for the Assistant Receiver General and Police Magistrate. By this arrangement the building known as the "Town Hall" (now used temporarily as public offices) can be, as originally intended, kept as a place for holding public meetings.

Clearing Pearbush from Suburban Roads as a Sanitary Measure.

Cholera having been reported as prevailing in some of the Windward West India Islands, it was recommended by the Board of Health, as a precautionary measure, that the roads and lanes, as well as the enclosed lots, situate in the northern and southern suburbs of the town of Grand Turk be cleared of the large quantities of pearbush which had been allowed to accumulate in those districts, and which have from time to time become a receptacle of all kinds of dirt and filth. This recommendation of the

Board of Health has been partially carried into effect, and a large quantity of pearbush and rubbish has been removed, thus giving an improved and healthy aspect to this locality, but I regret to say that the action of the Government in this matter does not appear to have been appreciated by the persons intended to be benefited, as very little or nothing has been done by them to remove the large quantities of pearbush growing in their respective lots.

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The clearing of these roads was commenced in January last, and the sum of 96l. 17s. 6d. expended. This, however, is comparatively a very small portion of the work necessary to be done, and unless proprietors will give their aid by removing from their respective lots the nuisance created from the overgrowth of pearbush within the line of roads, a sum of not less than 300l. will be needed to carry out fully the recommendation of the Board of Health.

Under the above circumstances, it has been deemed advisable for the present to suspend the further

prosecution of this precautionary sanitary measure.

WORKS IN CONTEMPLATION.

The several works contemplated for the years 1866-7 are:—
The general repairs of the public roads at Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and Cockburn Harbour; constructing a new gaol at Grand Turk; building a pier at Cook's Hole, Salt Cay, to facilitate the shipment of salt; laying down mooring buoys for the security of vessels at Cockburn Harbour; also building a canal or watercourse to connect the Boiling-hole with the main reservoir of the salt pond of Cockburn Harbour; and building a strong and permanent enclosure of stone to the Boiling hole. at Cockburn Harbour, and building a strong and permanent enclosure of stone to the Boiling-hole.

This latter work, I am of opinion, would conduce materially to the interest of the Government as

well as the proprietors,-

First.—By affording a ready and more abundant supply of sea water from the boiling spring to the public reservoir or flat, for the making of pickle, thereby considerably increasing the

production of the staple.

Second .- A large portion of the Boiling-hole basin, now considered useless for salt cultivation, would by the construction of a canal be made available for that purpose by bringing into cultivation 15 or 20 acres of superior salina, which, being near the shipping place, could without injury to a single interest be disposed of by the Government, and become an

additional source of revenue to the Colony.

While submitting the foregoing opinions, I am aware that the production of salt within the Colony at the present moment is far greater than the demand, and perhaps any expenditure (beyond that of providing a permanent enclosure for the protection and security of the Boiling-hole, and of excavating a channel for the conveyance of water from the Boiling-hole basin to the public reservoir) having for its object an increase of the production of our staple would under present circumstances be of very little benefit to either the proprietors of the pond or to the Government.

A. G. WYNNS,

A. C. Lowe, Esquire, Acting Colonial Secretary. Col. Surveyor and Inspector of Public Works.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

REPORT OF THE HEAD MASTER AND INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Your Honour, Grand Turk, Turks Islands, 8th May 1865. I BEG to submit for your consideration my report on the state of the Public Schools of this

Presidency for the year 1865.

2. The table annexed to it shows the number of scholars both in attendance and on the register of each school during the years 1864 and 1865, and also the amount of fees collected therein during each of those years. Both in the total numbers and in the total amount of fees the comparison is somewhat unfavourable to 1865. The total daily attendance in the seven schools during the year 1864 was 266 out of 420 on the registers, whilst the numbers for 1865 were only 228 and 345 respectively. 242 and 347 represent the corresponding averages for the last seven years.

3. The fees collected in 1864 amounted to 78l. 11s. 1d., whilst in 1865 they only reached 66l. 19s. 9d.

The average amount on the last seven years is 72l. 2s. 11d.

4. The greatest decrease in numbers last year, as compared with 1864, is seen in the Lorimer's School, whilst the falling off in fees has taken place in the infants' school at Grand Turk (though it still figures in the table for a larger amount than any other school) and in the two schools at Salt Cay.

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5. Boys' School, Grand Turk.—The number in this school during the last two years have been stationary; viz.,-50 in attendance out of between 60 and 70 on the register. These figures represent almost exactly the corresponding average numbers for the last seven years.

6. The fees collected in 1865, which amounted to 181. 1s. 3d., show a slight increase on those of 1864,

though triflingly below the average of the last seven years.

7. Girls' School, Grand Turk.—The number in this school, too, during 1864 and 1865, were exactly alike, being an average daily attendance of 21 out of 30 enrolled. The corresponding numbers taken on the last seven years are 23 and 32 respectively.

8. The fees collected also last year were almost precisely the same as in 1864, and but very little

below the average of the last seven years.

9. Infants' School, Grand Turk.—The numbers in attendance and on the books of this school during 1865 were 54 and 75 respectively, whilst in 1864 the corresponding numbers were 68 and 97 respectively.

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10. On comparing these two years, however, it should be borne in mind that 1864 was quite an exceptional year as regards this school. The great increase in the latter year was occasioned by the large number of families that took refuge in this Colony during the troubles which prevailed in Porto Platta, both in that and in the latter part of the preceding year. And although many of the children belonging to such families were old enough for the juvenile schools, yet they could seldom be admitted therein, until they had undergone a probationary course in the infants' school, because of their entire ignorance of the English language. Whilst, therefore, the infants' school was greatly affected by the sudden increase of the population to which I am referring, in the other schools there was no perceptible difference. Most of the refugees, however, having left this place during 1865, the infants' school may be said to have resumed again its normal condition in that year.

11. This is still more apparent from the average number in attendance and on the roll for the

seven years ended 1865, which were 57 and 77 respectively (as seen in the subjoined return), being therefore an increase of only three in the former and two in the latter case on the corresponding

numbers of last year.

12. The fees collected in the infants' school in 1865 fell considerably short of those in 1864, but the remarks I have made above with reference to numbers apply equally to the subject of fees. The amount for last year—211. 7s. 6d.—is, as I have stated at the commencement of this report, in excess of that received in any other of the schools, and equals within a few shillings the average of the last seven years, as shown in the following return.

RETURN. Infants' School, Grand Turk, from 1859 to 1865.

	YEARS.					In Attendance.	On Register.	No. that left the Infants' School.	No. that entered Juvenile School.	Fees received.		
							12 11 1			£	s.	d.
1859	Ť.	7 70			-	45	59	61	8	17	8	73
1860						62	78	63	25	23	8	10
1861						58	77	67	16	21	4	3
1862	-			5/10		48	73	54	9	16	19	4
1863					-	65	86	69	22	25	1	1
1864	-					68	97	80	25	27	0	7
1865					-	54	75	66	17	21	7	6
		7				400	545	460	122	152	10	4
Aver	ages					57	77	65	17	21	15	9

13. Two of the columns in the above table show that the number of children that passed direct from the infants' into the boys' and girls' schools during the last seven years average but a little more than one fourth the number which left the school in that time. Of the remaining three fourths (338) some few probably entered one or other of the juvenile schools at a subsequent date; but it may safely be asserted that by far the greater part never received, nor will receive, any further day-school instruction. No stronger argument could be adduced to show the absolute necessity of maintaining good infant

14. Boys' and Girls' School, Salt Cay.—The numbers in this school last year compare somewhat

14. Boys and Girls School, Salt Cay.—The numbers in this school last year compare somewhat unfavourably with those of the preceding year. In 1864 the number in attendance was 32, that on the register 58; whilst in 1865 the corresponding numbers were 28 and 49 respectively.

15. The fees in 1864 amounted to 9l. 7s. 1½d., but last year they only reached 5l. 18s.

16. Girls and Infants School, Salt Cay.—In this school there has been a large decrease in the numbers during the past year. In 1864 the attendance was 29 out of 46 on the roll, but in 1865 these numbers fell to 19 and 32 respectively.

17. The fees, which amounted in 1864 to 7*l*. 10s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$., fell in 1865 to 3*l*. 19s. 3*d*.

18. Now, had the small sum of one penny halfpenny per week for each scholar been paid at the Salt Cay schools, as at Grand Turk and East Harbour, about 20*l.*,—after making due allowance for absence from the island, protracted sickness, and such like (when the fee is invariably excused),—would have been realized at those schools last year, instead of something less than half that sum.

19. The teachers state, that since the decision of the Board of Education, early in 1865, not to

insist in all cases on the payment of the weekly fee at those schools, they have experienced the greatest difficulty in collecting any—the parents generally trying to evade the payment at all times, if possible. Yet, to quote your Honour's own words on a recent occasion, "one or two glasses of rum less than are "now paid for at the grog shop would meet all the requirements of this demand, would enable the "parent to do his duty by his offspring, and give him the feeling of independence that, pro tanto, he "was securing that amount of education he had it in his power to obtain for them."

20. It is quite evident, too, from the table accompanying this report, that the leniency of the Board

of Education with respect to the fees at the Salt Cay schools has not produced the effect desired—the

increase of the number of children attending those schools.

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21. Mixed School, East Harbour .- This is the only school that shows an increase (which is but slight) in its numbers during 1865, as compared with the previous year. In 1864 the numbers in attendance and on the register were 32 and 41, whilst last year they rose to 35 and 42 respectively. 31 and 40

are the corresponding average numbers for the last seven years.

23. Mixed School, Lorimers.—The decrease in the numbers at this school both in 1864 and 1865, as compared with the preceding year, was very great. In 1863 the average attendance had been close upon 50 out of about 100 enrolled; in 1864 the corresponding numbers fell to 34 and 80; and in 1865 the average on the whole year was but 21 out of 53 on the register. During the latter half of last year, however, the number of children in attendance was seldom over a dozen; and, as your Honour is aware, it was consequently decided by the Board of Education, in December last, to close that school

altogether for a time at the end of the then year.

24. The late master of the school at Lorimers, the Rev. S. Kerr, who was also the Baptist Missionary at that settlement, accounts for the excessive diminution of the number of children in attendance, in the first place, to several families having left the settlement in search of more productive land on which to grow their corn, their pumpkins, and such like, most of the ground around Lorimers showing signs of exhaustion; secondly, to the boys commencing a seafaring life at an earlier age than formerly, on account of the harder times lately prevailing there; and, thirdly, to the lamentable indifference generally manifested by parents of the working classes in this Colony to the blessings of education for their children.

25. The following table shows the number of scholars that attended (being absent only occasionally) four of the juvenile schools of this Colony, during the whole of the year 1860, and how many of those same scholars remained to the end of 1864.

TABLE.

			Number that attended the whole School-year.					
Place.		School.	For 1 year. 1860.	For 2 years. 1860-61.	For 3 years. 1860-62.	For 4 years. 1860-63.	For 5 years. 1860-64	
Grand Turk	JE	Boys'	- 56	40	25	23	10	
January 2 drive	1 6	dirls' -	- 24	10	5	3	1	
Grand Turk Salt Cay -	- L	Soys' and Girls'	- 40	15	13	10	3	
East Harbour	-	Ditto	- 25	20	14	10	7	
			145	85	57	46	21	

26. It appears then by the above table that of the 56 scholars who attended the boys' school at Grand Turk (the principal school in the Colony) during the year 1860, 40, or five sevenths, remained to the end of 1861, or two years; 25, or five elevenths, to the end of 1862, or three years; rather less to the end of 1861, or two years; 25, or five elevenths, to the end of 1862, or three years; rather less than the last number to four years; and that 10 only out of the original 56, or two elevenths, remained to the end of 1864, or five years. Out of 24 scholars who attended the girls' school during 1860, only one continued to the end of 1864; out of 40 at Salt Cay, three; and out of 25 at the Harbour, seven remained for five years. Summing up the result is, that of the original total number (145) in attendance at the four schools during 1860, only one seventh (21) remained for five years, or rather less than the average taken on the boys' school alone.

27. The closing of the school at Lorimers at the end of last year, to which I have already referred, prevents my including that school in the above table. Its effect would doubtlessly have been to

prevents my including that school in the above table. Its effect would doubtlessly have been to

prevents my including that school in the above table. Its effect would doubtlessly have been to present a still less favourable picture of the time that children remain in the public schools.

28. In an "Address upon the Educational Wants of the Juvenile Population of this Colony," delivered in December last before the Turks Islands Social and Moral Institute, and from which I have already briefly quoted in this report, your Honour was pleased to refer to the first school named in the foregoing table (the only one of which I had then been able to collect these statistics) in proof of one of the positions advanced in that address; viz.: "that education here is not successful because "it has not the advantage of sufficient continuity." I cannot do better, however, than quote your Honour's own words:—"I have said that these numbers have reference only to the boys' school in this Honour's own words:—"I have said that these numbers have reference only to the boys' school in this "Island, and I believe that they afford a less unfavourable picture than would be presented were the "Island, and I believe that they afford a less unfavourable picture than would be presented were the calculation to embrace the whole of the public schools in this Colony; but taking it at its best, you will, I think, agree with me in believing that but little good can be accomplished when such a state of things exists as is here represented. By sending your children so irregularly to school, you not only secure a careless and fragmentary inception in the acquisition of knowledge, but the evil becomes so chronic that, in all probability, it will continue so throughout life. Ill weeds grow apace, and this bad habit, if cultivated, will doubtless choke all the good seed which otherwise might bear a hundredfold to the child's everlasting advantage. Again, it is not fair that you should thus also be the means of injuring others. It entails gross injustice on the teacher; for, in an irregularly attended school, he has, when at longer or shorter intervals such waifs and strays make their appearance, to begin de novo the initiatory lessons, so that they may not be left altogether in the backappearance, to begin de novo the initiatory lessons, so that they may not be left altogether in the background. The teacher's attention is thus distracted from the legitimate progress of the punctual scholars in his endeavour to work up the truants to the acquisition of such knowledge as their school-"fellows have already mastered; and, the whole machine being thus thrown out of gear, much additional labour is necessary to overcome the jar, and to cause the wheels of knowledge to again run

smoothly in the necessary harmony."
29. At the close of a public examination of the schools at Grand Turk last year, in which your Honour evinced, as usual, the deepest interest, remaining the whole time each day the examination lasted, your Honour was pleased to express the satisfaction you felt, on the whole, at the result, specifying Scripture history, mental arithmetic, geography, and singing as subjects in which the boys'

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school particularly excelled; and those views seemed to be fully shared by members of the Board of Education and other visitors present, as they certainly were by me.

30. After so satisfactory an expression of opinion respecting the attainments of the children generally, by one so intimately acquainted with the working of the public schools, it is unnecessary for me, I consider, to remark further upon that subject, and I shall therefore at once conclude this report by subscribing myself

Your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

His Honour A. W. Moir, Esquire, President, &c. &c., Turks and Caicos Islands. THOMAS OCKENDEN,
Inspector and Head Master, Public Schools.

A Table showing the Average Number of Scholars in daily Attendance at, and on the Registers of, each of the Public Schools of the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also the Amount of Fees collected therein, during the Years 1864 and 1865.

		18	1864. 1865.			Fees received.					
Place.	School.	In Attendance.	On Register.	In Attendance.	On Register.	1864.		1865.			
						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
: (Boys'	50	67	50	64	17	16	4	18	1	3
Grand Turk	Girls'	21	31	21	30	8	6	71/2	8	9	3
Grand Turk { Salt Cay -{	Infants'	68	97	54	75	27	0	$7\frac{1}{2}$	21	7	6
(20	Boys' and Girls' -	32	58	28	49	9	7	$1\frac{1}{2}$ $10\frac{1}{2}$	5	18	0
Salt Cay -{	Boys' and Girls' - Girls' and Infants' -	29	46	19	32	7	10	$10\frac{1}{2}$	3	19	3
East Harbour -	Mixed*	32	41	35	42	8	7	3	9	3	6
East Harbour - Lorimers -	Ditto	34	80	21	53	0	2	3	0	1	0
0		266	420	228	345	78	11	1	66	19	9

^{*} Composed of boys, girls, and infants.

THOMAS OCKENDEN, Inspector, &c., Public Schools.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Mundy to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 73.)

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit the annual Blue Book for the year 1865, and beg to make the following observations thereon:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1865 was 309,371l. 11s. 1d., against 311,524l. 5s. 7d. in the year 1864. This slight decrease may be attributed to the ordinary fluctuations of trade and business. The expenditure in 1865 was 300,894l. 8s. 6d., against 270,344l. 4s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}d$. in 1864. There was an increase under the head of public works of 15,947l. 6s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}d$., owing to the expenditure for the sea wall being paid out of the annual revenue, and not by loan as in the previous year. There was also an increase for redemption of bonds and investments for redemption of bonds of 6,372l., and for riot compensation bonds, which have been altogether redeemed, of 4,731l. 13s. 4d.

Public Debt.

In 1865 the aggregate amount of the Colony debt was 559,516. 13s. 4d., showing a decrease of 34,100l. on the previous year.

Public Works.

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The principal expenditure has been for the sea wall, Georgetown, for the county gaol of Georgetown, the colonial hospital, Berbice, the police barracks and station in Georgetown, and painting of the public buildings.

Legislation.

Eighteen ordinances were enacted during the year, chiefly of a local character.

Education.

There was an increase of expenditure under this head owing to the additional number of schools and increased attendance of children. There were 117 schools, being eight in excess of 1864, and the average attendance was 5,821 in 1865, against 5,599 in 1864.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the goods imported in 1865 was 1,359,292l. 3s. 0d., against 1,508,560l. in 1864. The decrease may be attributed to the large imports in 1864, in consequence of the two very destructive fires during that year. The value of goods exported in 1865 was 2,089,639l. 1s. 0d., against 1,845,351l. 13s. 0d. in 1864. The value of the goods exported in 1865 in which there is an increase as compared with 1864 was of sugar 1,593,035l., against 1,319,625l.; of rum 282,024l., against 247,507l.; of molasses 72,272l. 10s. 0d., against 56,870l. 10s. 0d.; of cotton 7,435l., against 6,907l. 10s. 0d.; and of goods in which there is a decrease on the previous year the value was of hardwood 34,410l. 18s. 0d. in 1865, against 62,239l. in 1864; of rice 14,306l. 12s. 0d., against 20,180l. 12s. 0d.; of flour 9,033l. 5s. 0d., against 16,618l.; of foreign cotton 11,519l., against 14,279l. 14s. 0d.; of balata 2,507l. 13s. 0d., against 8,000l. Under other heads there was an increase in the value of the exports of about 30,000l. in the year 1865.

Gaols and Prisons.

There seems to be nothing under this head which requires special notice.

In conclusion, I may observe that on the whole the Colony appears to have prospered during the past year. The produce of the sugar cane, the chief staple, showed an increase of upwards of 12,000 hogsheads of sugar, 5,000 puncheons of rum, and nearly 2,000 puncheons of molasses over the year 1864.

In other respects I have no reason to doubt of the material wealth and prosperity of

the country.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) ROB. M. MUNDY.

BAHAMAS.

Bahamas. No. 5.

No. 5.

EXTRACT from a DESPATCH from Governor Rawson, C.B., to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, dated Government House, Nassau, September 1, 1866.

(No. 142.)

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1865,

together with my annual Report to accompany it.

The latter, although it does not embrace so wide a period, or enter into many details so fully described in my Report for last year, is not without interest, as showing the sudden termination of the blockade-running trade, and the quiet manner in which the trade of the Colony returned into its ordinary channels.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT.

The year 1865 has witnessed the close of a period of profitable enterprise, and of almost feverish excitement, in the Island of New Providence, such as has seldom been experienced in any British Colony of the same size. It is not, however, the first time that this Island has been the scene of a similar extraordinary paroxysm of trade. In 1799, when the population of the Colony probably did not exceed 12,000, during the war between England and Spain in alliance with France, a trade between Nassau and the Spanish territories in the western hemisphere was carried on in British vessels, licensed under His Majesty's Orders in Council, which amounted to a third of a million sterling in six months of that year, while the imports and exports between Nassau and Great Britain amounted in the year ending 10th July 1799 to 1,071,000l., and in the same year prize goods to the value of 303,983l. were sold by auction in New Providence.

- 2. On the present occasion the transition, sudden and unexpected as it was, took place without any great convulsion, commercial or social. Although many of the merchants and traders of the place were largely interested in the trade so abruptly cut off, and held heavy stocks of goods, which were little suited for any market but that from which they were now excluded, no great commercial depression was felt among the local mercantile establishments; no house fell, no insolvencies were declared, few failed to become richer during the civil war in the United States. The losses, for such there were, fell chiefly upon English and foreign houses, which had established agencies here during that period; and although a considerable stagnation of foreign trade has continued up to the present time, owing to the large stocks of imported goods remaining on hand when the war ceased, the trade of the Colony has relapsed into its ordinary channels more rapidly than could have been foreseen.
- 3. At the commencement of last year the blockade-running trade between Nassau and the Confederate States was at its height. The number of steamers which arrived in January and February 1865 was greater than in any two previous months, amounting to no less than 20, exclusive of 12 which were driven back by Federal cruizers, and the quantity of cotton imported in them amounted to 14,182 bales, valued at 554,675l.
- 4. But in these months the two ports of Wilmington and Charleston, to which this trade had for a considerable time been confined, succumbed to the Federal arms, and, after a short and unsuccessful endeavour to reopen the trade through other channels, all importations from the Southern States ceased. Fort Fisher, the key to Wilmington, fell on the 17th of January; the intelligence of its capture reached Nassau on the 24th of that month. Charleston was evacuated on the 10th February; the event was known in Nassau on the 18th of that month.
- 5. After the end of February only three vessels arrived with cargoes of cotton, two of which were from Galveston, Texas. Both of these had proceeded from this port to Havana, for the purpose of endeavouring to reopen the trade through some port in the above state. The last vessel which left this port direct for the coast of Georgia was the "Little Hattie," which cleared on the 25th February.

6. Of the 27 steamers which remained in harbour, or arrived there, after the Southern ports were closed,—

13 cleared for England. Halifax. ,, 2 Bermuda. ,, 3 Havana. ,, St. Thomas. 1 ,, Matamoras. 1 ,, Baltimore. 1 2 remain here.

Total - 27

Some of these were new vessels, of larger tonnage and greater power than those hitherto employed; one or more had a twin screw. Some were suspected of being

intended for employment as Confederate privateers; but the suspicions appear to have been groundless.

BAHAMAS.

- 7. Although importations from the Southern States almost ceased in February, great activity prevailed in the port for some time afterwards. Importations from other quarters continued for some weeks. The exportation of cotton to England, and the re-exportation of goods originally destined for the Confederate States to any ports in which the prospect of a market offered itself, and the re-shipment of such goods to England, continued for a considerable time, and it was not until the month of August that foreign commerce resumed its ordinary channels. Internal trade did not recover that condition until a later period. Forced sales of imported goods continued to take place at intervals, and it cannot be said that the commerce and trade of the Colony had been restored to its normal condition before the close of the year.
- 8. This year's Report, therefore, still applies to an exceptional state of the Colony, and must be taken to exhibit the progress of its transition from the fever of the last two years to its ordinary condition,—periods which, it must be confessed, would present but too striking and lamentable a contrast, if there were not reason to hope that the impetus given to the cultivation of cotton, and to the more active pursuit of other industrial occupations, would establish the commencement of an annually increasing approximation.

Population.

- 9. No enumeration has been taken of any part of the Colony during the year. In Nassau the sudden stoppage of the blockade-running trade led to the discharge of numbers of seamen, engineers, and stokers in the month of February, but the prompt action of the local Legislature in requiring due provision to be made for their maintenance by the masters of vessels discharging them, and the necessity for re-shipping them to man the vessels when removed from this harbour, prevented the mischief which it was at one time anticipated would occur from the above cause at the close of the war.
- 10. The temporary establishments formed in this city, and the numerous visitors attracted hither during the war, began to be broken up and to disperse in the month of March. The labouring population, which had resorted hither to profit by the active employment and inordinate wages offered to them, were slower in dispersing, and many, doubtless, have settled here, and serve to increase the former population of the island.
- 11. There was a marked improvement in the health of the city of Nassau during the year. Yellow fever disappeared. There were but two or three cases of it occurring in the early part of the year. The total mortality was 417, as compared with 502 in 1864. The mortality of the third quarter, during which yellow fever generally prevails, was 98, as compared with 223 in 1864. Scarcely any fevers of any description prevailed during the last three quarters of the year. The only malady deserving special notice, which has prevailed in most of the islands, has been the whooping-cough. In the out-islands the mortality has been little less than in 1864. In Nassau, during the last quarter of the year, it has been the same as in 1864. But the latter, it may be assumed, was below the average, having been affected by the excessive mortality of the preceding quarter, already noticed.
 - 12. The number of births and deaths in the two years were:

The excess of births has been in the two years 643, which, on an approximate population of, say 38,000, amounts to an annual increase of less than one per cent.

13. The contrast of fatal diseases in the two years is shown by the following difference of per-centage proportions of the total mortality:—

				1864.		1865.
Febrile diseases -	-		-	41·4°/。		20·3°/。
Diseases of heart and lungs		-	-	13.2	_	23.3

BAHAMAS.

14. The seasons of mortality have been marked by some differences in the two years:—

		Number.		Number. Per-c Prop	
		1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.
First Quarter Second ,, Third ,, Fourth ,,	1111	193 208 375 220	243 199 236 246	19°4 20°9 37°6 22°1	26.3 21.5 25.6 26.6
Total	-	996	924	100°	100.

Education.

15. The anticipation expressed in last year's report of a rapid improvement in the management of the public schools, and a corresponding increase in the number of scholars, has been fully realised. The new inspector of schools arrived in May 1865, and before the close of the year he had visited almost all the schools. Copies of his report, and of that of the Board of Education, are annexed to this report.*

16. During the year the number of schools was increased from 25 to 30; and between May and December the average attendance of scholars had increased 57 per cent., viz., from 755 to 1,190, and the proportion of the attendance to the number of scholars on the

books had improved by 10 per cent.

17. It is gratifying to be able to notice and record the lively and very general desire manifested by the inhabitants to procure education for their children, and to contribute liberally towards the erection of school buildings and the maintenance of teachers. This spirit has enabled the Board to arrange for the establishment of a much larger number of schools in the out-islands than the funds placed at their disposal, or the available revenue of the Colony, would have permitted; and the co-operation of local committees, which have been formed in each settlement in the course of the year, has proved in several ways advantageous.

Crime and Pauperism.

18. The records of the General and Police Courts exhibit a slight increase in the number of offenders brought to trial, and those of the public gaol of Nassau a considerable increase in the average daily number of persons in confinement. The number of foreign seamen (i.e. not belonging to the Bahamas) included in the latter had notably increased. It was to be expected that the excitement attending the breaking up of the blockaderunning trade in the early part of the year, the consequent discharge, and to some extent distress, of seamen and others who had been engaged in it, and the loss of employment among the labouring class arising from the same cause, which of course first affected persons of idle habits and indifferent character, would swell the criminal calendar of the year, notwithstanding the large decrease in the floating population in the last eight months, and such has proved to be the case.

		1863.	1864.	1865.
General Court.—Convicted - Acquitted -		- 59 - 23	75 24	65 37
Total		- 82	99	102
Police Court.—Males - Females -		- 689 - 189	891 221	922 245
Total	1.75	- 878	1,112	1,167
Foreign Seamen. General Court Police Court			- 5 - 18	27 38
	Total		- 23	65

19. The expenditure on the maintenance of indigent sick and paupers has slightly increased during the year. Exclusive of outlay on repairs of the buildings of the New Providence Asylum, it has amounted in 1864 to 2,200l., in 1865 to 2,489l.

BAHAMAS.

Legislation of 1865.

20. The annual session of the Legislature opened on the 1st of February and closed on the 3rd of May. The following are the principal Acts which were passed during its sitting:

1 to 5. "To amend the Laws relating to Criminal Offences against the Person, Malicious Injuries to Property, Larceny, and Accessories to Criminal Acts."—Caps. 2, 3, 29, 31, and 37.

6. "To transfer the Jurisdiction of Chancellor from the Governor to the General

Court."—Cap. 23.

7. "To require a Magisterial Investigation into all Cases of Wreck."—Cap. 14.
8. "To provide more effectually for the Superintendence of Public Works."—Cap. 41.

9. "To provide for the Maintenance of Out-Island Roads."—Cap. 32.
10. "To provide for the Maintenance of Dischaged Seamen."—Cap. 1.
11 and 12. "To renew and amend the Tonnage Duties."—Caps. 8 and 19.
13. "To amend the Law relating to Common Lodging Houses."—Cap. 12.

14. "To amend the Law establishing a Board of Health, and to provide an Inspector of Nuisances."—Cap. 42.

15. "To authorize the Sale of the Royal Victoria Hotel in Nassau." - Cap. 25.

16 and 17. "To provide for the temporary Increase of Salaries of Public Officers, and for a temporary Allowance to the Military."—Caps. 9 and 10.

Land and Agriculture.

21. The number and extent of grants of Crown land issued in 1865 was considerably less than in 1864. In neither year were they of any importance.

In 1864, 62 grants, $207\frac{1}{4}$ acres. 1865, 33 ditto, $117\frac{1}{2}$ ditto.

The largest number were in New Providence and St. Salvador.

22. The cultivation of cotton and of the pine apple has been extended during the year. The latter is chiefly confined to the Islands of Eleuthera and St. Salvador. The former has extended from Long Island to Eleuthera, Exuma, Crooked, and Acklin Islands. It has been commenced in New Providence, and is likely to extend to other Islands. The export of Bahama cotton has increased from 24 packages in 1864, valued at 2771, to 439 packages, valued at 2,3601. The produce of the land planted in 1865 had not been picked and shipped before the close of the year. In Long Island, where a company has been formed, the estimated quantity of land under cotton at the close of 1865 was reported to be 1,200 acres. The average produce is estimated at 250 lbs. per acre. The produce of the coming crop in that Island is therefore calculated at 300,000 lbs., or 1,200 bales of 250 lbs. each, and of a value of about 20,0001. Shipments of Bahama cotton sent to England have realized from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 11ad. a pound.

of Bahama cotton sent to England have realized from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 11½d. a pound.

23. The exportation of pine apples in 1865 fell short of that of 1864, both in quantities and total value; but it is believed that the present year (1866) will exhibit

the effects of the extension of plantations.

Imports and Exports.

24. The returns of these illustrate the transitional state of the commerce of the Colony during the year. In 1864 the total value of Imports was 5,346,112*l.*, including raw cotton to the value of 3,584,587*l.*, or one third (66 per cent.) of the whole amount. In 1865 the value of Imports was 1,470,467*l.*, of which 638,515*l.*, or 44 per cent., consisted of raw cotton.

25. In 1864 the total value of Exports was 4,672,398l., of which 3,371,904l., or almost three fourths (72 per cent.), consisted of raw cotton shipped to the United Kingdom. In 1865 the value of Exports was 2,073,474l., which includes American raw cotton to the value of 838,007l., or just two fifths (40 per cent.), and merchandise, chiefly manufactured goods, re-exported to the United Kingdom, amounting to about 500,000l., or nearly one fourth (24 per cent.)

26. The value of native productions exported was 77,070*l*., which exhibits an increase of 19 per cent. upon 62,478*l*., the corresponding exportation of 1864, and upon the average of the years 1860-61, before the commencement of the blockade-running trade.

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27. The increase in the quantity of raw cotton produced in the Bahamas and exported, chiefly to the United States, has been already stated in para. 22.

28. The value of wrecked property which passed through the Customs in 1865 was

unusually small, viz., 28,017l.,—little more than half of that landed in 1864.

29. The following statement of the amount of Customs Duties received in each Island will serve as a tolerably correct indication of the amount of direct import trade carried on in each:—

Customs Duties received in 1865.

				£ s	. d.
In	New Providence			55,092 19	7
,,	Harbour Island		-	1,853	2 4
22	Inagua -	- 1	-	1,512	5 2
11	Abaco -		-	861 11	1 4
**	Eleuthera -		-	748	6
"	Crooked Island		-	497 8	3 11
11	Long Island -			353	3 9
22	Rum Cay			63 19	9 6
	Exuma -		-	26 16	3 2
	Ragged Island		-	Nil.	
	Total		-	61,009 13	3 3
					AMERICAN PROPERTY.

30. As Nassau is the chief port for foreign trade, and as no account has hitherto been kept of goods transhipped from it to the out-islands, it is impossible to estimate the proportion in which the several out-islands contribute indirectly to the revenue by the purchase and consumption of goods which have paid duty in New Providence, and the receipts at Nassau last year were swollen by the local consumption caused by the blockade-running trade.

31. The value of the trade with each country, Imports and Exports, is shown in

Annexures Nos. 7 and 8.*

Wrecks.

32. The number of Wrecks and Casualties during the year was considerably less than in the preceding year:—

		18	64.		1865.
Wrecks	-	4	8		30
Casualties	-	1	9	-	31
Total		- 6	7	-	61
		Charleston			processores and the same of

33. The following Abstract shows the part of the Colony in which the Wrecks occurred, excluding Casualties:—

1864. 1865.

To Windward:						—
North-east, Lit	tle Bal	nama Bank		5	-	5
East, Gre		ditto	-	10		7
South-east, dit	to	ditto	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -	13		2
South, dit	to	ditto	-	1	-	1
To Leeward:						
West, ditt	.0	ditto	-	6	-	7
On the Great I		Tile - 15		1	-	4
Central, ditt	0 -		-	10	-	3
North-west, Li	ttle Ba	hama Bank	-	2	-	1
		Total		48	•	30

34. The following were the months in which the Wrecks and Casualties happened, distinguishing the former which occurred to Windward from those occurring to Leeward. The large excess in the month of October was caused by a violent hurricane which swept across the Great Bank and up the coast of Florida, where it took an easterly course, committing great ravages among the shipping upon the American coast. Its effects, as experienced in the Bahama Archipelago, fell chiefly on the Biminis and

Grand Bahama, upon the western edge of the Banks, and upon vessels caught in the tail Bahamas. of it, about 200 miles north and north-east of Nassau

		Wrecks.							
	T	Windward.		To Leeward.					
January	-	1		1					
February	-	2		2	-	_			
March -	-	<u> </u>	-	2					
April -	-	1		2	-	4			
May -	-	3	-	1	200	2			
June -			-						
July -	-		-	1	-				
August	-		-	1	-				
September	-	1	-	2	-				
October	-	5	-	3	_	12			
November	-	2				5			
December	-	_			-	8			
Total	-	15	-	15	-	31			
		_							

35. The following statement exhibits the nationality of the several vessels in 1864 and 1865, and the decrease of British and increase of American ships, which was to be expected at the close of the American civil war:—

		1864.	1865.
British	-	42	27
American	-	18	24
French	_	2	1
Spanish	-		2
Dutch	-		1
Swedish	-	1	# N
Danish	_		1
Hamburg	_	1	
Bremen	-	- L	2
Unknown	-	3	3
Tota	al -	67	61
		- Commissioners	DARKETANIAN

36. The nature of the cargoes, in vessels actually wrecked and disabled, separately, in 1865, was as follows:—

		Wreeks.		Casualties.		Total.
Assorted -	-	11		9	_	20
Colonial Produce:	_					
Sugar, &c.	-	1	-	5	-	6
Coffee, &c.	-	3	_	1	_	4
Rum and Sugar	-	1			-	1
Cotton -	-	-	-	3	-	3
Provisions :-						
Cattle -		1			6 -	1
Fruit -			-	1		i
Lime and Potato	es			1		1
Fish -	-	1	_	-	-	1
Salt -	-	_		3	-	3
Timber :-						
Lumber -	-	3	-		-	3
Cooperage	-	1	-	1		2
Lignum vitæ	-	1				1
Logwood .		1		1		2

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		Wrecks.		Casualties.		Total.
Other:—				4. 10.		
Coals -		4	-		_	4
Guano -			-	1	-	1
Passengers	-	_		1	-	1
Passengers In ballast		1		2	-	3
Not stated		1	-	2	-	3
Total	4	30		31	•	61
		-		Description in contrast of the		-

37. The value of wrecked property on which Customs Duties were paid, and the amount of the duties, were very much less in 1865:-

		1864.		1865.
		£		£
Value -	-	51,414		28,017
Amount of Duties	-	5,580	-	2,594

38. The number of men and vessels licensed for wrecking during the year was :-

39. Of the 117 vessels licensed in the out-islands,-

```
46 were registered at Inagua.
                                     Abaco.
              44
                          22
                                     Harbour Island.
              20
                          "
                                     Crooked Island.
               5
                          99
                                     Eleuthera.
               1
                          99
                                     Long Island.
               1
                          "
Total
             117
```

40. The tonnage of the total number was as follows:-

o ocour 1				
Under	5			47
Of	5			46
From	6 to	10		37
"	11 ,,	15		29
"	16 ,,	20	-	5
"	21 ,,	30	-	18
"	31 ,,	40	-	16
,,	41 ,,	50		15
22	51 ,,	75		13
"	76 ,,	100		3
22	115 "	120		1
	7	Cotal		230

Shipping.

41. The returns of Shipping for last year exhibit, of course, a large falling-off from those of 1864, amounting in tonnage to 32 per cent.; viz.:-

But the decrease was confined to the port of Nassau, at which almost exclusively the blockade-running trade was carried on, and where the decrease was from 169,418 to 106,614 tons, or 40 per cent., while in the out-islands there was a large increase, viz., from 14,166 to 18,055 tons, or 27 per cent.

42. Compared with 1864 the trade with the United Kingdom, as shown by the tonnage of ships entered, had decreased from 31.1 of the whole to 25.0, that with the

West Indies had increased from 5.2 to 11.1, and that with the United States had fallen from 45.6 to less than 40 per cent. The proportion of tonnage belonging to the United Kingdom had decreased from 51 per cent. in 1864 to 45 per cent., and that of colonial shipping had increased from 20.6 to 32.1 per cent.

43. The number of vessels built in the Bahamas in 1865 was 11, their tonnage 114. The number of vessels registered in the same year, chiefly prior to the close of the American civil war, or immediately after it, was 80, their tonnage 10,338.

44. The receipts from tonnage dues at the port of Nassau during each month of the

year show the gradual diminution and extinction of the foreign trade arising out of the blockade, and those from the out-islands during the whole year indicate the trifling amount of foreign trade which is affected by those dues.

Receipts in Nassa	u :—					£	s.	d.
1865.	January -			-		580	16	0
	February	-		-		469	7	0
	March -		-		100	327	5	0
	April	-				323	13	0
	May -		-	- 1	20 Fe	175	3	0
	June	-		-		119	9	0
	July .		-	14. 4.10	-	76	5	0
	August	-			-	60	14	0
	September		-		-	42	16	0
	October			-		54	15	0
	November		-			77	19	6
	December	-		-	-	51	4	0
						2,359	6	6
Receipts from out	-islands in t	he w	hole y	ear -		25	9	0
		То	tal			2,384	15	6

Trade.

45. Exchange.—The rate of exchange on bills drawn by the Public Bank on London remained tolerably steady during the year, at 4 per cent. on bills at 30 days sight, and 3 per cent. on those at 60 days. The commissariat rate of exchange reached 5 per cent. in the last two months of the year.

46. Public Bank.—The operations of this institution had diminished by nearly

one half :-

				Receipts.	Payments.
				<u>2</u>	£
1863	-	. K		2,128,721	1,988,661
1864			-	3,585,574	3,413,995
1865	-		-	1,722,601	1,905,557

The cash balance at the end of the year had decreased by nearly one half:—

						£
1863	-		-			201,746
1864		-		1	-	373,324
1865	-		-		-	190,363

The chief reduction had been in American and French gold:-

							U	
							1864.	1865.
								_
							£	£
Gold,	English	-		-	Ann.	-	34,320	28,322
,,,	American		-			-	178,125	47,828
"	Spanish	-		-		-	25,437	19,908
,,	French					-	32,937	41
Silver	The Later	-		-		-	102,504	94,247
	Tot	al		-			373,324	190,363

The bank yielded 700l. of profit to the Colony during the year.

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- 47. Savings Bank.—The number of accounts opened in 1865 was only 13; the amount of deposits was 469l. 14s. 9d. The number of accounts closed was 7; the amount withdrawn was 142l. 7s. 11d. At the close of the year the number of depositors was 146, and the amount of deposits was 4,546l. 10s. 9d.
- 48. The insignificance of the transactions of this institution may be accounted for partly by its connection with the Public Bank, to which the labour of the cashier is necessarily chiefly devoted; its connection with the Government, of which the labouring classes think they ought to be suspicious, certainly without reason, as far as their mutual relations for many years past have been concerned; but above all by the number of small friendly and loan societies established in Nassau, which provide salaries for one or two officers, and create a position of social influence and pecuniary trust for their managers, which is too frequently turned to bad account, and to the spoliation of the members.
- 49. Post Office.—The returns of this department afford, as might be expected, a striking illustration of the decrease of commercial transactions, and of the correspondence which they create. The following is a comparative statement of the letters, newspapers, &c. sent through the General Post Office, Nassau, during the last two years :-

		1864.	1865.
		-	-
Letters sent out of the Colony	-	43,903	29,794
Do. Interinsular		1,309	1,845
Do. Registered	-	1,934	1,135
Newspapers	-	11,671	8,516
Book parcels	-	82	115

- 50. The increase of the interinsular correspondence and of the book parcels is a good sign; and the amount received as commission upon money orders, viz., 266l. 0s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$., being 5 per cent. upon 5,318l. 12s. 1d. remitted to England, and upon 10l. 12s. 0d. received from England, shows the extent to which the public have availed themselves of the convenience offered by this branch of the Post Office, during the prevalence of high premiums upon commissariat and commercial bills.
- 51. Bankruptcies and Debts.—It is surprising that no bankruptcy or insolvency was declared during the year, and the number of cases tried before the Court of Common Pleas had decreased; viz.:-

	1864.	1865.
Claims for debt Trover and detinue, &c.	- 817 - 61	768 73
Total -	- 878	841

52. Prices and Wages .- The extreme range of the last two years abated somewhat The extraordinary allowances to civil servants and the officers of the garrison ceased with the close of the year. But neither prices nor wages had returned to their ordinary level at that time, and, notwithstanding the reduction in the demand for labour and domestic servants, advanced rates are still demanded. Rents have fallen, but houses are scarce, and this prevents a return to ordinary rates.

53. Public Market, Nassau.—The receipts from tolls and stall rents fell from

1,184l. 4s. 6d. in 1864 to 874l. 9s. 0d. in 1865.

Revenue and Expenditure.

54. The Revenue of 1865 was 84,487l., which fell short of that of 1864 by 22,150l., or one fifth. The Expenditure of that year was 78,549l.; of 1864, 103,249l. The difference is 24,700l., or nearly one fourth (24 per cent.) But in the Expenditure of 1864 was included the sum of 36,442l. paid for capital and interest of the Public Debt, so that the ordinary Expenditure of the two years was 66,807l. and 78,549l. respectively, and exhibited an increase in 1865 of 11,742l., which is equal to 17½ per cent.

55. The balances in the Public Chest had increased between the 1st January and

31st December from 22,096l. 7s. 5d. to 30,129l. 11s. 1d.

56. The principal sources of the deficiency in the Revenue are to be found in the

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Customs Duties and Shipping Dues. In the produce of the auction tax, wreckers' licences, dues on registration of shipping, and Queen's fines, there was an increase.

57. The increase in the ordinary Expenditure was spread over the several branches

of the Civil Establishments and miscellaneous appropriations.

58. Some idea of the falling-off in the internal business and consumption of the Colony may be formed by a comparison of the receipts in the first and second halves of the year, which exhibits a decrease of sixty-two per cent.

From 1st May to 30th June - - 51,988 ,, 1st July to 31st December - 32,499 Total - 84,487

The Customs Duties fell during the same periods in exactly the same proportion; viz., from 37,582l. to 23,427l.

Out-Islands.

59. It is a question of importance, but of considerable difficulty, to determine the claims of the out-islands, collectively and separately, upon the General Re enue for the support of local establishments, and assistance towards the execution of local public works. The difficulty lies in the impossibility of ascertaining the proportice of Customs Duties which is contributed by the inhabitants of each island, a matter already noticed. No account has been kept of the imported goods taken out of bonded warehouses for consumption in the out-islands, and no account can be taken of the large quantities of goods purchased in the shops of Nassau, or supplied, as advances, by shopkeepers of Nassau to their customers in the out-islands; and in making a calculation founded upon the population of each island, one is met by the uncertainty as to the present population of each, the derangement caused by the abnormal trade of the last four years, which brought a large temporary population into New Providence, and by the very great disproportion in the consumption of duty-paid articles by the inhabitants of the different islands. The wide differences in their social habits, and means of purchasing articles of luxury, or even the common necessaries of life, beyond the fruit of their own labour, the fish and grain obtained on their own shores, create another difficulty. The consumption of duty-paid articles per man in Nassau is vastly different from that of the inhabitants of Exuma or Watlings Island. But the following statements, first, of the actual receipts and expenditure in the year 1865 of each out-island in which a revenue collector exists, and, secondly, of the calculated revenue yielded by each island, after providing for the general charges incidental to all, and not practically divisible, out of the gross Customs Duties, will throw some light upon the subject.

	Total R	eceipts.	m . 1	Total	
	Customs.	Other.	Total.	Expendi- ture.	
	£	£	£	£	
Abaco	861	266	1,127	1,759	
Harbour Island -	1,853	342	2,195	2,692	
Eleuthera	748	108	856	1,312	
Long Island	353	12	375	989	
Exuma	26	11	37	387	
Rum Cay	63	20	83	393	
Crooked Island (and		1.14.3			
Fortune Island) -	499	172	671	749	
Ragged Island		15	15	222	
Inagua	1,512	663	2,175	1,824	
	5,916	1,620	7,536	10,331	
New Providence	55,220	21,731	76,951	-	
Other Islands	_	_		1,391	
Total	61,136	23,351	84,487	11,722	

To the latter column may be added, say 788l. for the transport of public officers, including the Governor, Bishop, Receiver General, Inspector of Schools, &c., and of police and prisoners, making an approximate expenditure of 12,500l.

60. The following calculation, which is very unfavourable to New Providence, because

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it takes the population returns of 1861, since which date the population of Nassau has increased considerably, and because it makes no allowance for the larger consumption of duty-paid articles in Nassau (including that of the military and navy) than in the out-islands, shows,-

1st. The per-centage proportion of the population in each island according to the

2nd. The amount of Customs Duties to which the population of each island would be entitled according to the above proportion, and assuming the gross receipts to be about

40,000l., which is one third more than they were in 1861-1862.

3rd. The proportion out of that amount payable by each island towards the general Expenditure, such as the salaries of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, General Court, &c., which should be contributed by all at the same rate, and of annual Expenditure which cannot be separately stated for the several islands, which, upon a careful analysis, amounts to about 35,000l. a year.

4th. The balance remaining over, to which the several islands might assert a special

claim in the appropriation of the Revenue.

5th. The amount of other duties and taxes, general and local, collected in each island, in respect of which the inhabitants would have a special claim in the

The total amount thus claimable by each island.

7th. The actual Expenditure of each out-island in 1865. The Expenditure of New Providence is not given, because it was seriously affected by the consequences of the blockade-running trade, which did not extend to the out-islands.

Island. Per-centage proportion of to taken in 1861.		proportion of roms Duties Population taken at 40,000		Cus- es, general Purposes, taken at 35,000l., chargeable against		Amount of other general and local Duties collected in each Island in 1865.	Total of last two Columns.	Total Expenditure on each Out-Island in 1865.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
New Providence	_	32.6	13,040	11,410	1,630	21,512	23,412	_
Abaco -		6.7	2,680	2,345	335	266	601	1,759
Harbour Island	-	5.7	2,280	1,995	285	342	627	2,692
Eleuthera -	-	15.7	6,280	5,495	785	108	893	1,312
Long Island		7.3	2,920	2,555	365	22	387	989
Exuma -	_	6.5	2,600	2,275	325	11	336	387
Rum Cay -		1.9	760	665	95	20	115	393
Crooked Island		1.8	720	630	90	172	262	749
Ragged Island	_	•8	320	280	40	15	55	222
Inagua -	-	2.8	1,120	940	180	663	843	1,824
							Total of	Out-Islands.
Total		81.8	32,720	28,590	4,130	23,131	4,119	10,331
All other -		18.2	7,280	6,410	1,870	Nil.	830	1,391
TOTAL	_	100.	40,000	35,000	5,000		-	11,632

61. The object of this statement is not to show that more is expended out of the Revenue on the out-islands than their own claims and the public interest demand, but that the argument very commonly used, and probably very generally believed, that the out-islands are entitled to a larger expenditure than they actually receive, on account of their contribution to the Customs Duties paid in Nassau, is not consistent with the facts, and to explain why New Providence and Nassau are entitled to a much larger expenditure of a local, and even municipal, character than the out-islands, the inhabitants of which, it has been shown, contribute so small an amount beyond their share of the expenditure required for the support of the general government of the whole Colony.

62. Upon the preceding statements it is also necessary to observe that a considerable portion of the Customs revenue received at Harbour Island is contributed by the inhabitants of Eleuthera, who draw their supplies to a certain extent from that port, and almost the whole of the export trade of that island consists of the produce of Eleuthera; also that the Customs Duties received at Inagua and Crooked Island, including Long Cay, are swollen by the produce of wrecks occurring on or near those islands, which is entered, and on which duties are paid, there, but which is afterwards sent to Nassau for consumption or re-exportation.

63. On the other hand, in estimating the claims of the out-islands, it must be borne in mind that a considerable number of the wrecks and their cargoes are brought into Nassau by boats fitted out and manned by the inhabitants of Abaco, Harbour Island,

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Grand Bahama, and the Biminis; that the greater part of the cargoes saved from wrecks by the inhabitants of Inagua, Long Cay, and the neighbouring islands and cays, are, as above stated, re-shipped to Nassau; and that Nassau is the sole market for the spongers of all the out-islands. Thus employment and profit are given to the population of that city, which is also interested and shares in the profit of the pine fields of Eleuthera and St. Salvador, and in other enterprises in the out-islands. Hence the whole Colony is knit together; the populations of the capital and the out-islands receive and give reciprocal advantages, and the vital energy and well-being of the heart are increased and intensified by the health and activity of all the limbs and other members.

Public Works.

64. The expenditure under this head in the Blue Book returns was 11,585l. in 1865, having been 11,838l. in the preceding year. The sum of 1,342l. on account of the public abutments, which figured as a liability in last year's report, has been paid, and the liability cleared off during the present year. A contract for the erection of the new public prison in Nassau, also included among the liabilities of last year, was made in October, and the work has been commenced, and is making satisfactory progress. The sums voted in aid of public works in the out-islands have been handed over to the Local Boards entrusted with the superintendence of their execution.

Military.

65. In the month of September the garrison was reduced to one third its strength by the removal of a detachment to Jamaica, for the purpose of putting down the insurrection in that island. No portion of it was sent back before the close of the year. A small detachment of marines and seamen were landed from Her Majesty's Ship "Cygnet," then in port, to assist in garrison duty. A corps of volunteers, consisting of two companies of rifles, was formed, and afforded some relief to the weakened garrison by taking the guards on Sundays. An officer of Royal Engineers arrived in November charged with the duty of examining the proposed works for improving the defences of the city of Nassau, and of preparing plans and estimates for the most profitable expenditure of the sum voted for this service by the Colonial Legislature in its session of the present year.

Meteorology.

66. The year 1865 was characterized, as far as Nassau was concerned, by an excess of temperature, of rain, and of north-easterly winds, above the preceding year, and still more above the average of the ten preceding years. The Annexure No. 12* affords the *Not printed. means of comparison, of which the following are the most interesting results:—

67. Barometer.—The mean height was somewhat greater:-

In 1865 30.03 inches. 1864 -29.99 1855 to 1864 -30.00

68. Thermometer.—The mean temperature was greater. Of the observations taken at 9 a.m. the mean was:—

In 1865 - - - - - 79·3 1864 - - - - - - 76·6 1855 to 1864 - - - - 76·6

The highest temperature on any one day in 1865 was 90° (in the month of August); in 1864, only 85°, occurring in July. On the other hand, the lowest temperature in 1865 was 60°, observed in February; the lowest in 1864, observed in the same month, was 64°.

69. Rain-fall.—This was largely above the average in 1865, viz.:-

- 68.8 inches. 1865 65.6 ,, 1864 1855 to 1864 - 56.0

It will be seen also that it did not occur at the usual seasons, and that there was an extraordinary excess in the month of October.

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		Inches of Rai		Per-centage Proportion in each Month.			
Months.	Average of 1855 to 1864.	1864.	1865.	Average of 1855 to 1864.	1864.	1865.	
January	2.4	2.	3.3	4.3	3.	4.8	
February	2.4	2.2	1.8	4.3	3.3	2.6	
March	4.5	3.2	•4	8.	5.	.6	
April	2.4	3.5	• 5	4.3	5.4	.8	
May	6.9	11.8	7.8	12.3	18.	11 . 3	
June	6.4	8.1	9.4	11.4	12.4	13.7	
July	6.5	10.5	5.6	11.6	16.	8.2	
August	6.7	12.6	13.4	12.	19.	19.8	
September	5.2	3.2	4.4	9.3	5.	6.4	
October	7.4	4.6	17.8	13.2	7.	25.6	
November	2.8	3.6	3.9	5.	5.5	5.8	
December	2.4	•3	•5	4.3	•4	.7	
Total -	56.	65.6	68.8	100.	100.	100.	

70. This is further illustrated by the following table, which exhibits the proportion of fine and rainy days to be expected in each month, including, however, rather an excess of the latter as compared with the average of the 10 years 1855 to 1864. It also shows the season at which thunder-storms prevail, which, it appears, usher in the hurricane season, extending from the beginning of August to the end of October.

		Number of Days in each Month.												
		1864.							1865.					
Months.		Rain.		and				Ra	in.		and	and		
	Fine.	Heavy.	Steady.	Slight.	Showers.	Thunder and Lightning.	Gale.	Fine.	Heavy.	Steady.	Slight.	Showers.	Thunder and Lightning.	Gale.
February - March - April - May - June - July -	24 21 22 25 19 17 18 14 20 21 23 30	1 1 1 -2 7 5 5 6 - 3 - 1	- 2		$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c } \hline 6 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 5 & 4 & 1 \\ \hline 7 & 6 & 7 \\ \hline - & & & & & \\ \hline 7 & & & & & \\ \hline 9 $	7 6 6 6		25 23 29 27 21 16 23 18 19 17 24 28	1 - 4 4 2 8 4 7 1	2 - - 1 2 3 2 1 -	3 2 2 1 1 3 — — — — 1	3 2 4 5 3 6 7 5 2		
Total	254	31	19	16	45	25	_	270	31	11	13	40	16	2

It must, however, be observed that, although, the quantity of rain which fell in 1865 was greater than in 1864, the number of rainy days was somewhat less.

71. Upon the average of the two years, the largest number of fine days occurred in December; the number in the four months January to April was somewhat less, and varied but little. The smallest number occurred in June and August. There was a marked decrease from April to May, and a similar increase from October to November. The average of the six months from November to April was 25 days, from May to October only 18.

72. Wind.—The greatest average force of wind occurred in January, and continued with slight diminution until May. The highest observed pressure occurred in January, but the only gale noticed occurred in October. This was the tail of the severe hurricane

previously mentioned in para. 34.

73. The direction of the winds prevailing in 1864 and 1865 contrasts remarkably with the average of 1855-64. The excess of north-easterly, and decrease of southerly, winds are equally remarkable.

Monthly average Number of Days from each point at 9 a.m.

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			1	855–64.	1864.	1865.
North -				1.	1.1	0.5
North-east	-		-	6.9	12.2	14.
East -		-	-	6.4	4.2	4.7
South-east	-		-	6.4	8.3	7.7
South -			-	4.9	0.8	0.2
South-west	-		-	2.9	1.0	1.4
West -		-	-	1.3	0.1	0.1
North-west	-		-	0.6	2.	1.7

74. The comparative prevalence of the north-easterly wind in the different months of the year is shown in the following table:—

Number of Days on which North-easterly Winds prevailed.

							Average of	
						1855–64.	1864.	1865.
January		-		-		8	17	14
February			-		_	8	19	9
March -		-		-	_	5	3	14
April			-			8	13	17
May -		-		-		6	16	14
June -			-		-	4	17	10
July						2	5	18
August	-				-	3	10	7
September		-		_		8	9	17
October	-		-			11	16	17
November		-				10	19	11
December	-		-			9	13	20
						82	147	168
							CONTRACTOR STATEMENT	Burmani Cradinancia

Conclusion.

75. At the opening of the year 1865 the Colony was engaged in an intensely active and highly profitable trade arising out of the blockade of the Southern States of North America. At its close it was suffering from the re-action and stagnation caused by the sudden cessation of that trade. But much of this was owing to the change in pecuniary position and commercial aspirations which the successes of the last few years had brought about. The humble profits of the past years seem now to be insignificant. The slow growth of ordinary speculations appears to be tedious, and their cultivation to be unworthy of much labour or trouble.

76. The blockade-running trade has not established, or left the germ of, any new trade. It has not opened any new channel, nor increased the commercial relations of the Colony with any other country. But it has produced this good: It has turned the attention of the mercantile community to the means of developing existing resources, and of opening up new employments for the population of the out-islands, and fresh

sources of profitable industry and commerce for all portions of the Colony.

77. A Colonial population, especially one which partakes so largely as that of the Bahamas of African origin, and among whom the recollections of the days of slavery are still so fresh, will not quickly imbibe new ideas, acquire more elevated tastes and desires, embrace a higher view of life and of its objects, or exchange its heathen Elysium of blissful idleness for the Christian's Paradise of healthful and happy industry. Nevertheless, it may be confidently anticipated that the fruits of a salutary change arising out of recent circumstances will become visible throughout the Colony in the year 1866, and that it may attain such dimensions in succeeding years as may materially alter the position of the Bahamas among the Colonial ornaments of the British Crown.

TRINIDAD.

No. 6.

TRINIDAD.

No. 6.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer administering the Government to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 83.)

Trinidad, July 19, 1866.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the statistical returns composing the

Blue Book of Trinidad for the year 1865.

2. My connection with the Island as Administrator of the Government being but for a brief period, and so few weeks having elapsed since my arrival, I do not, with my slight and imperfect acquaintance with the several matters to which these returns relate, venture

to offer any observations of my own thereon.

3. As the financial operations of the past year were, however, reviewed by the late Governor in a message delivered to the Legislative Council on the eve of his departure from the Colony in April last, I have annexed a copy of that communication, and I would invite attention to the concluding remarks, recording as they do his deliberate opinion, that although the year 1865 was one of great agricultural and commercial depression, yet the review of that year had largely increased the confidence previously expressed by him in the resources and in the future of Trinidad.

I have, &c

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) EDWARD E. RUSHWORTH.

Encl. in No. 83.

Enclosure in Despatch No. 83, of 19th July 1866.

MESSAGE.

Mr. Chief Justice, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

The supplemental estimates for the year 1865 are now before you. These estimates set forth a large expenditure unprovided for in the general estimates for that year. But the actual expenditure in 1865, under many heads, fell short of the estimated expenditure, and the supplemental estimates do not show the amount by which the actual expenditure exceeded the estimated expenditure of the

2. In order that you may have before you a complete and synoptical statement of the financial operations of the year 1865, I have directed that returns should be laid before you showing respectively the estimated and actual expenditure, and the estimated and actual receipts of the year.

3. The first-mentioned return shows an excess of actual over estimated expenditure (excluding payments which are items of account) of eleven thousand six hundred and sixty-nine pounds nineteen shillings and eightpapers halfpapers (11,669), 198, 814)

shillings and eightpence halfpenny (11,669l. 19s. $8\frac{1}{2}d$.)

4. The second return shows an excess of actual over estimated revenue (excluding receipts which are items of account) of eleven thousand eight hundred and twenty pounds ten shillings and twopence (11,820l. 10s. 2d.)

5. And you will observe that the actual expenditure of 1865 exceeded the actual revenue of that year by one thousand nine hundred and three pounds ten shillings and threepence halfpenny

 $(1,903l.\ 10s.\ 3\frac{1}{2}d.)$ 6. But this excess did not cause a deficiency in the treasury, or even exhaust the funds at the disposal of the Government for defraying the expenditure of 1865; for on the 31st December 1865 the balances in the treasury to the credit of the Government exceeded the deposits in the treasury by six

thousand three hundred and eighty-three pounds (6,3831.)
7. And it is right that I should bring before your notice the fact that the Government expenditure in 1865 included an unusually large proportion (about eleven thousand pounds in round numbers) of the immigration expenditure for the season of 1865–66. Moreover, on the 30th December 1865 the the immigration expenditure for the season of 1865-66. Moreover, on the 30th December 1865 the sum of five thousand nine hundred and seventy-one pounds and twopence (5,971L 0s. 2d.) was paid to the Bank of England (for interest on bonds and on the guaranteed loan, and on account of the sinking fund for the repayment of the last-mentioned debt), which was not due until the 1st of January 1866. And this expenditure was provided for in the estimates for 1866, but was not provided for in the estimates for 1865. I should add that, two half-yearly payments of the same character had been made (the first on the 2nd January, the second on the 30th June) in the year 1865.

8. These explanatory observations would not be complete if I were to omit to bring before your notice the condition, at the close of 1865, of the Colony as regards the public debt, compared with its

notice the condition, at the close of 1865, of the Colony as regards the public debt, compared with its condition in this respect at the close of the preceding year.

9. Now the debt of the Colony may properly be classified under three heads:—
Firstly.—The funded debt (secured by bonds and debentures), and for which the Government holds no counter-security.

TRINIDAD.

Secondly.—The funded debt (secured by debentures), incurred by the Government for the promotion of local improvements, for which debt the Government holds counter-security (for the regular payment of the interest and gradual payment of the principal) of ample value.

Thirdly.—The unfunded debt of the Government, consisting of deposits in the treasury to the credit

of the Government.

10. The funded debt, for which the Government holds no counter-security, amounted on the 31st December 1864 to one hundred and ten thousand and ten pounds (110,010*l*.), and on the 31st December 1865 it amounted to ninety-two thousand six hundred and thirteen pounds (92,613*l*.), showing a decrease of seventeen thousand three hundred and ninety-seven pounds (17,397*l*.)

11. The funded debt, incurred by the Government for local improvements, and for which the Government holds ample counter-security, amounted on the 31st December 1864 to eighty thousand four hundred and fifty pounds (80,450*l*.), and on the 31st December 1865, it amounted to eighty six

four hundred and fifty pounds (80,450*l*₃), and on the 31st December 1865 it amounted to eighty-six thousand eight hundred and ninety-five pounds (86,895*l*₃), showing an increase (but no additional burden on the revenue) of six thousand four hundred and forty-five pounds (6,445*l*₃).

12. The deposits in the treasury amounted on the 31st December 1864 to fifty thousand seven hundred and six pounds (50,706*l*₃), and on the 31st December 1865 the liabilities of the Government number this head were raised to sixty one thousand nine hundred and two raised to sixty one thousand nine hundred and two raised to sixty one thousand nine hundred and two raised to sixty one thousand nine hundred and two raised to sixty one thousand nine hundred and two raised (61,000*l*), wherein

under this head were raised to sixty-one thousand nine hundred and two pounds (61,902l.), showing an increased debt of eleven thousand one hundred and ninety-six pounds (11,196l.) But the balances in the treasury to the credit of the Government amounted to sixty-eight thousand two hundred and eighty-five pounds (68,285L) on the 31st December 1865, against sixty thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven pounds (60,837L) on the 31st December 1864. And while, therefore, the surplus balances in the treasury were decreased by three thousand seven hundred and forty-eight pounds (3,748L) during the year 1865, there was at the close of that year an available surplus in the treasury of six thousand three hundred and eighty-three pounds (6,383L) And it should be remembered that the year 1865 was one of great agricultural and commercial depression.

13. I have purposely restricted my observations to the financial operations of the past year. But, without infringing on the rule which I have thus laid down for my own guidance, I may state that the interval which has elapsed since my message of the 19th September 1865 was laid before you has largely increased the confidence which I then ventured to express to you in the resources and in the

future of Trinidad.

Council Chamber, Government House, 2nd April 1866.

BARBADOS.

No. 7.

BARBADOS.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 340.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, November 27, 1866. My LORD, I HAVE now the honour to furnish your Lordship with the annual Report on the condition and prospects of the Colony which usually accompanies the Blue Book.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

2. During the year 1865 there was no alteration in the import duties or other taxes.

3. Recently, however, on the 30th of June last, the additional rate of 25 per cent. upon all Customs duties, imposed in 1864 to meet an excess of expenditure, was repealed, as the object had been attained.

4. Also during the last three months an additional tax of 1s. on each acre of land has been imposed, and of 3d. in the pound on the rental of houses, for the support of a

local militia force.

5. The principle has been established, as at home, of rating the postage on each half ounce over and above the first half ounce, instead of progressing by two rates at a time.

Fees, &c.

6. A new tariff of the fees to be taken in proceedings in Chancery has been established, by which the transfer of real property, when disposed of under the orders of the Court, will be considerably relieved. The fees have been adapted to the nature and amount of the work to be done, and the per-centage payable to the officers of Court on the sale of properties has been made payable on the amount of money deposited, and not on the nominal amount of the purchase money.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

BARBADOS.

44

Revenue and Expenditure.

7. Subjoined is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years:—

			Revenue.	Expenditure
			£	£
1861		-	98,049	115,895
1862	-	-	93,682	93,461
1863	-	-	102,572	104,795
1864	-	-	107,391	104,384
1865	-	-	103,533	99,383

8. As has been frequently explained in former years, these figures include several extraordinary receipts and payments on account of the waterworks company, the public debt, &c., and they do not, therefore, accurately represent the ordinary income and expenditure of the Island, which may be stated in round numbers to be about 90,000l. Of that sum 60,000l. was produced in 1865 from the duties on imports and tonnage, 4,500l. from licences to sell beer and spirits, 13,200l. from the duty of 1s. on each gallon of rum consumed in the Island, and a land tax amounting to 3,600l.

9. The import and tonnage duties during the last five years amounted in

					£
1861	to	-			54,704
1862	"			-	51,430
1863	22	-		-	50,945
1864	"		-		56,735
1865	,,		100	-	60,075

10. A considerable increase is observable in the consumption of rum during 1865, which appears to rise and fall with the crop, and the amount of money consequently circulated amongst the people.

Local Revenues.

11. Under this head are classed the parochial rates, and the taxes for the maintenance of the roads, both of which are under the administration of the vestries of the respective parishes. That of the roads has been of late years a great success. They never were in a better state than at present.

Public Debt.

12. The amount of the public debt, which stood on the 1st of January 1865 at 10,000l., was reduced in 1865 by the sum of 5,000l., and has during the present year been entirely extinguished. This was effected, as has already been noted, through the operation of a temporary Act for increasing the import duties by 25 per cent.

Military Expenditure.

13. There cannot be said to be any militia or other local force now in existence. The provision for the Volunteer Mounted Yeomanry Corps expired at the close of 1865, and there was no fresh enrolment after that date. An Act has, it is true, been passed this year for raising other local corps, but circumstances principally arising out of the unpopularity of the measure, have retarded its organization to the present time.

Public Works.

14. I am sorry to be unable to report much progress in the only public work of any importance now being carried on, the erection of the swing bridge over the careenage. In deference to the advice of the Superintendent of Public Works, the Governor and Council ordered that the foundations for the bridge should be placed on cylinders to be sunk to a very considerable depth, and filled with concrete. The process of sinking the cylinders has been very tedious, owing chiefly to our want of appliances on the spot for remedying defects in the machinery. The delay which has occurred has, in disregard of local difficulties, induced complaint, and the consequence has been the interposition of the House of Assembly with a demand for investigation, and for the stoppage of the works while that investigation is going on.

Legislation.

15. The majority of the Acts in 1865 were to continue or amend others already in operation, or for private or local purposes.

16. The stimulus given by recent events to the cultivation of cotton led to further BARBADOS. legislation for the protection of the grower.

17. The occupation of the new female prison at Glendairy made it necessary to

increase the number of officers at that prison.

18. The jurisdiction of the police magistrates in cases of petty larceny was extended to receivers of stolen goods, and persons having in their possession anything which may be reasonably suspected of being stolen or unlawfully obtained, without being able to account satisfactorily for the same, when the value does not exceed 16s.

19. The Education Act of 1858, among other things, required that public schools for primary instruction to be entitled to participate in the benefit of the grants of money for educational purposes should have not less than a certain number of children in actual average attendance, and that the Education Committee in making grants to such schools should take care that they were in proportion to the amounts realized by the respective masters and mistresses from the payments of the children under their instruction, and from other sources. But this system having been found to operate unequally, and to hold out to the class of persons engaged a temptation to misrepresentation and unfair practice, an Act was passed repealing these provisions, and authorizing the Education Committee to continue to make grants to schools on their list although the average attendance of children may have fallen below the number entitling them to be placed on the list, if and so long as circumstances shall appear to them to justify it; provided that in no case shall legislative aid be afforded when the average attendance shall have fallen below a certain minimum. The Education Committee are also authorized to make rules and orders with respect to the distribution of the legislative grant, which is fixed at 5,000l. for two years.

20. The Act to authorize aliens to take and hold leases in this Island is a transcript

of the 5th section of the Imperial Statute, 7 & 8 Victoria, cap. 66, section 5.

21. The Act to amend and continue the Trade Acts of the Island, which came into operation on the 1st of January in the present year, and is to continue in force for three years, repeals a clause of the Act of 1863 relative to the warehousing of goods, and substitutes for it a drawback on goods authorized to be constructively warehoused by the former Act, and extends the prohibition as to warehousing to pickled fish.

Council and Assembly.

22. Since the date of my last report the Council has lost two of its members,—one, Dr. Nathan Young, by death, and the other, Sir John Thomas, by resignation. Their places have been supplied by Mr. T. G. Briggs, and Mr. Joseph Haynes, both resident

proprietors, the former a very large one.

23. In 1865 little change occurred in the constitution of the Assembly, but this year, in consequence of the excitement arising out of the discussions respecting a militia and volunteer force, a House has been returned of which a majority is opposed to the organization of a local military corps. Four members who were captains of the volunteer cavalry lost their seats: two retired from an unwillingness to stand a contest, one was fairly driven out of the field, and the fourth resigned on account of the number of his private engagements as an attorney.

Civil Establishment.

24. There were unusually few changes in the Civil Establishment of the Island during 1865. The only one indeed of any consequence was caused by the death of Mr. Jones, the landing surveyor of the Customs, and the appointment of Mr. Chase, of the same

department, to succeed him.

25. More recently the death of Mr. C. Gill, a very old magistrate of Bridgetown, occasioned a vacancy, to which Mr. Kerr, the police magistrate of Christ Church, succeeded, while Mr. Kerr's office was supplied by Mr. Frederic Smith, who had distinguished himself at Codrington College, and had for upwards of nine years been employed in the Secretary's and Governor's offices.

Pensions.

26. A pension of 250l. per annum has fallen to the public by the death of Captain George Evelyn, R.N., late harbour-master and captain of the port.

Consuls.

27. There has been a change in the United States consulate, Mr. Sperry, the late consul, having retired to America, and been succeeded by Mr. Morton.

BARBADOS.

Population.

28. The ordinary natural increase of the population in Barbados since 1861 cannot be ascertained until we have another census, but there is every reason to believe that it is

29. The emigration from Barbados to Demerara still continues, though in a smaller degree than in 1863 and 1864; and if it were not for the cases of infirmity and orphanage which it throws back on the Island, I should regard the outlet as altogether a wholesome one. Last year there was a migration of some 300 mechanics and labourers to Liberia, but the accounts received from them show that they have not improved either their health or their pecuniary circumstances by the change.

Savings Bank.

30. The only one institution of the kind in the Island is under the management of the Governor in Council. The number of depositors continues to increase amongst mechanics and domestic servants, but the bank is not yet used to any extent by the agricultural labourers, for whom its advantages were mainly intended.

Education.

31. In his annual report for the year ending 30th September last the Inspector of

Schools says:-

"Since my last report the Education Committee have gone upon an altered plan in disbursing the money placed at their disposal by the legislature (2,500l. annually), and this course having given new vigour to the teachers, the result of the change has been a marked improvement in the number in attendance at the schools, along with " greater regelarity in the hours of work, and a nearer approach to faithfulness in teaching."

"In the year 1863 our schools were more flourishing in point of numbers than at any " time I remember, but following that year came times of depression, and many sought " to improve their condition by emigrating. It is early yet to believe that natural "increase has made good these gaps in our population; yet in comparing numbers with that time we find 11,892 children's names on the registers, against 12,460, no great " falling off, while in the matter of average attendance (a much more reliable criterion) " we discern a positive and not inconsiderable gain, the number for 1866 being 7,947, " against 7,565 in 1863. For the last eighteen months the seasons have been more than " commonly favourable to agriculture, and the people have in consequence grown " somewhat less straitened in circumstances than the beginning of this period found them, and this improvement has been auxiliary with the cause already described in "producing a larger average attendance in our schools during the quarter just ended than has been attained in any preceding time."

32. A tabular statement is annexed of the number of schools in connexion with the

Education Committee, and of the number of children attending them.

Imports and Exports.

33. Subjoined is the usual table of imports and exports for the preceding five years:-

		Imports.			Exports.
		£			£
		923,874	- 32	-	1,075,374
	-	913,141		-	1,067,612
14.		878,208	-	-	0 - , -
-/-	-	910,081	4		0 ,0 .
-	-	953,334	• ,	-	1,161,159
			- 923,874 - 913,141 - 878,208 - 910,081	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

34. The value of the sugar exported in 1865 is returned at 15l. per hogshead, a sum, I am sorry to say, not at all warranted by the average account sales of the year.

35. The value of the cotton grown in and exported from Barbados rose from 2,915l. in

1864 to 7,930l. in 1865.

36. The sugar crop for the five preceding years was in round figures,—

								Hogsheads.
1861		-		10.0				49,845
1862			× -	-		-	-	46,078
1863		-	-	-	-		-	42,436
1864	-		-	**		- 4767	-	36,199
1865	-			-	-	-	-	47,209

In this present year, 1866, there have been shipped from the Island no less than 57,892 hogsheads, which is by far the largest crop the Colony has ever made. But the sugar has been produced at great expense in labour and manures. And the account sales received up to date do not lead to the expectation that it will, upon the whole, prove a remunerative crop to the Island.

37. The tonnage inwards during 1865 was 159,372, in 1864 it was 152,191. Of this

the British vessels numbered in 1865, 136,367 tons; in 1864, 108,845 tons.

Crime.

38. In the report of 1864 I had a very sorrowful statement to make under this head, but the two genial seasons of 1865 and 1866 have had the usual beneficial effect of reducing the number of prisoners, the large majority of whom is at all times composed of persons of both sexes, convicted of petty theft. Within the last eighteen months the number of prisoners has repeatedly fallen below one half of what it was in 1864. We have, however, had returned on our hands many of the most hardened offenders in the Island, and their conduct at times has been so violent and insubordinate that I have been compelled to sanction several sentences of corporal punishment.

General.

39. The health of the Island continues to be very good, notwithstanding that there have been serious outbursts of disease in many of the Colonies around us. Guadeloupe in particular has been grievously afflicted both with cholera and yellow fever, and Demerara is at this moment suffering so much that it has been deemed necessary to withdraw the detachment of white troops and bring them up to Barbados. Native provisions are tolerably abundant; the crop of 1867 promises to be nearly as great as the unprecedented one of this year. Labour, though abundant, commands its usual price; and to all appearance there is general contentment amongst the people.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAMES WALKER.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

STATEMENT concerning Schools for the Poor, in connexion with the Education Committee of Barbados, for the Quarter ended 30th September 1866.

	Number of Schools.			Number of Children upon the Registers.			Number of Children in average Attendance.				Pupil-
Religious Denominations.	Primary.	Infant.	Total.	Primary.	Infant.	Total.	Primary.	Infant.	Total.	Certificated Masters.	Government
Church of England - Moravian Wesleyan	52 8 15	58 7 —	110 15 15	5,004 895 1,281	4,204 508	9,208 1,403 1,281	3,333 645 908	2,753 308	6,086 953 908	32 2 2	11
Totals -	75	65	140	7,180	4,712	11,892	4,886	3,061	7,947	36	18

Gross population by last Census, 152,275. Over 4 years and under 15, 46,698.

ST. VINCENT. No. 8.

No. 230 July 28, 1866.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to the Right Honourable the EARL OF CARNARVON.

(No. 401.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, August 11, 1866. My LORD, I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1865, together with the usual report thereon by the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAMES WALKER.

(No. 230.)

&c.

Government House, St. Vincent, July 28, 1866. SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Vincent for the year 1865, and to submit the following report:

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1865 was 18,999l., being 1,360l. less than that for the previous year. The principal items of decrease are 1,181l. under the head of import duties, and 499l. under that of excise on rum. The decrease in the former is attributable to a diminution in the amount of articles imported, and the falling off in the rum duty is supposed to arise in consequence of the increased strength at which the rum is at present manufactured, the duty not being collected according to the strength. A decrease is shown of 438l. under the head of Post Office Revenue, but this is only apparent, as in the previous year the gross amount, including the proportion due to the imperial Post Office, was returned, a system which has been very properly altered in the present statement.

The expenditure of 1865 is less than that of the previous year by 1,341l. The principal item of decrease is under the head of Militia and Volunteers, who were fully equipped and accoutred in the former year. It is satisfactory to notice, notwithstanding the decrease in the expenditure, that the sum of 2,084l. was paid off on account of a local loan for immigration purposes, being 949l. more than the sum applied for this

service in 1864.

Immigration Fund.

This fund shows a balance to its credit at the end of the year of 2,429l. Beyond the regular fixed charges the only expenditure has been 280l., the amount of bounty on Portuguese immigrants.

Public Debt.

The entire liability of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 1,400l., which has been subsequently paid off in full. The Colony is therefore free from debt of any description.

Militia.

The militia and volunteer forces remain at about the same strength as reported by me last year. The want of an officer who has served in the regular army, to direct and instruct the corps, is severely felt, but measures have been recently adopted to supply this deficiency. There was a general muster of the corps on the 24th of May.

Public Works.

A new church is being erected at Layon, a town in the Leeward District, estimated expenditure 500l. A very creditable stone bridge has been constructed over the South River in Kingstown by the town wardens, at a cost of 147l. The usual annual amount

has been expended upon the roads throughout the Island, which, generally speaking, St. VINCENT. of 250l. has been spent with good result upon the Colonial Hospital, an institution that has not hitherto commanded much public attention. The Government House has been placed in a tolerable state of repair at a cost of 2001.; 1001. has been spent upon the repairs of the parsonage house at Bequia, one of the Grenadines; and extensive repairs were commenced upon the Court House in the town of Kingstown, which have not been as yet completed.

Legislation.

Of the Acts passed during 1865 the most important were:-

1. "An Act for the Appointment of a Harbour Master for Kingstown, and for the Regulation of his Duties." This is an appointment which was very much wanted, especially in case of the establishment of quarantine. Power is also given the harbour master, under the Act, to license all seamen engaged in the coasting trade, and authorizes him to refuse to grant or to cancel any such The harbour master is also the only authorized pilot for the port of Kingstown.

2. "An Act to amend an Act to provide for the Establishment of a Court of Appeal." This Act requires the party appealing from a judgment of the Supreme Court to give notice of intention to appeal within three days after judgment has been pronounced, and within ten days after to execute a bond for the due prosecution

of the appeal within six calendar months from the date of the bond.

3. "An Act to regulate the Fees payable to the Officer administering the Govern-"ment, and to provide for the Disposal of the same." The Act provides that after the tenure of office of the present Lieutenant Governor the fees heretofore

receivable by him shall be paid into the treasury.

4. "An Act for promoting the Public Health." An enactment of this nature was rendered necessary in consequence of the appearance of cholera in the Island of Guadeloupe. It authorizes the appointment of a general board and of assistant officers of health, and defines their duties and powers. The sum of 500l. is

granted for immediate sanitary purposes.

5. "An Act to amend the Practice and Mode of Pleading in the Supreme Court of "Judicature in this Island." This Act, as its title indicates, is for regulating the practice of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and the pleadings and other proceedings before the Court, which it assimilates as nearly as possible to those of the Courts at Westminster. Schedules and forms are attached to the Act. This Act is shortly styled "The Common Law Procedure Act, 1866."

Civil Establishment.

The only new office created during the year was that of harbour master. As this officer is, however, solely remunerated by fees, no addition is made to the charge on account of the fixed permanent establishment.

Population.

As before the passing of the Act for the registration of births and deaths in 1864 no reliable means were at hand for ascertaining the increase or decrease in the population, the return under this head is based upon the census taken in the year 1861, which shows the entire population at that date to have been 31,755, of which 2,347 were whites, 6,553 coloured, and 22,855 black. I append the first report of the Registrar-General of the Colony for the year ending the 30th June 1865, which shows that the number of births registered during that period was 1,456, while the deaths were 1,296, the excess in favour of births being 160, or 41 per cent. upon the entire population, while the proportion of deaths was 4 per cent.

This high death-rate, as compared with the statistics of Great Britain in this respect, owing principally to the mortality prevailing among children of tender years, the Registrar-General ascribes to the absence of proper medical attendance in certain country districts. I, however, am disposed to believe that this state of things is to be attributed rather to the want of proper care on the part of the parents in supplying their children with proper sustenance, and that it is from deprivation rather than disease that the greater number of deaths occur. On this account I rather doubt whether the remedy proposed by the Registrar-General of providing paid medical attendance for the

St. Vincent. use of the poor would meet the difficulty. The same indifference and want of natural affection towards their offspring which, I regret to say, is a trait too notoriously inherent in the negro character, and which induces neglect, would likewise prompt them to disregard a recourse to medical aid, even if placed at their door gratuitously. I, however, regarded the subject as one of such importance as to claim special reference to the Legislature.

It is to be deplored that the proportion of illegitimate births should be so large, being

61 per cent. of the whole number for the year.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

Immigration.

The number of immigrants in the Colony on the 31st December was-

Indians	-		- 532
Africans		- ,	- 82
Portuguese	7		- 76
			691

The births during the year were 27, and the deaths 24; of these latter, 10 were of infants. The immigrants generally were in the enjoyment of good health. The offences committed by them during the year were few and trivial, only 27 having been committed to gaol, of whom 21 were for breach of contract. The immigrants continue to give satisfaction to their employers.

Ecclesiastical.

The ecclesiastical establishment remains upon the same footing as when previously reported upon. A new chapel is in the course of erection in the town of Layon, in the Leeward District of the Island.

Education.

During the year there were 19 primary schools and the grammar school in connection with the Church of England; 12 primary schools under the superintendence of the Wesleyan body; and three primary schools under the superintendence of the minister of the Roman Catholic Church.

The aggregate number of pupils in attendance at these schools, and the school for the education of the poor, was 2,284, and the average daily attendance was 1,437. In com-

paring the returns of the last two years an increase of 468 will be perceived.

The several schools were examined in December by the ministers respectively charged with their superintendence, and it is reported by the examiners that the teachers generally appeared to have faithfully discharged their duties during the year.

The primary schools in connection with the Church of England were supplied with

books, slates, maps, &c. in the course of the last twelve months.

Imports and Exports.

The value of imports of the Colony for the year was 121,144l.; of this, 35,817l. were from the United Kingdom, 78,247l. from British Colonies, and 7,080l. from Foreign Ports. This statement shows a decrease upon the imports of the previous year from the United Kingdom of 17,873l. and from Foreign Ports of 7,125l. On the other hand, however, there is an increase upon the imports from British Colonies of 9,994l.

The value of exports for the year was—to the United Kingdom 140,700l., to British Colonies 5,555l., to Foreign Countries 1,597l., being a decrease of 8,561l. on the

exports of the previous year.

The amount of sugar exported in 1865 was 8,456 hhds., against 8,168 hhds. in the previous year, showing an increase of 288 hhds. Of rum, 1,794 puncheons in 1865, against 1,284 puncheons in 1864, showing an increase of 510 puncheons. Of molasses, 916 puncheons in 1865, against 1,418 puncheons in the previous year, being a decrease of 502 puncheons in 1865. Of arrowroot, 7,433 barrels in 1865, against 7,229 barrels in 1864, showing an increase of 204 barrels in the past year. Of cocoa, 17,440 lbs. in 1865, against 13,200 lbs. in 1864, showing an increase of 4,240 lbs. in 1865. Of cotton, 117,100 lbs. in 1865, against 29,700 lbs. in 1864, showing an increase in 1865 of 87,400 lbs. It will be thus perceived that, with the exception of molasses, there has been an increase in the amount of all the articles exported during 1865.

Manufactures, Mines, Fisheries.

ST. VINCENT.

There are no regular fisheries established here, but the waters of the different bays and channels are frequented during the earlier months of the year by vessels engaged in whale fishing, and, strange to say, though acknowledged to be highly remunerative, the pursuit is carried on solely by vessels under the American flag, which pay tonnage dues for the privilege of fishing in these waters. I may add, that the number of vessels so engaged is largely upon the increase of late.

Gaols and Prisoners.

There were 349 persons convicted before the several tribunals of the Colony, being 10 in excess of the convictions during the previous year; but of the entire number no less than 331 were for offences cognizable by the magistrates. Of the graver crimes against person and property, there were only 18 convictions, against 21 in 1864, and to these the native population contributed but a small proportion, it being notorious that crimes of a heinous character are committed principally by the refuse of the population of other Colonies, who establish themselves here so long as it suits their convenience. The same difficulty was experienced as in the previous year in exacting fines from the lower orders, which circumstance tended to swell the number of committals by the magistrates.

General Remarks.

I think that an examination of the several returns of the Blue Book for 1865, which have been compiled with much care, will show that I am justified in reporting favourably upon the condition of the Colony at the end of the year. Notwithstanding a small decrease in the revenue, the amount collected was sufficient to meet all local demands, to pay off the portion of the debt falling due in the year, and to leave a respectable balance to the credit of the public. The exports showed an increase as compared with the previous year. The season was propitious for agricultural operations. In consequence of the outbreak of cholera in the Island of Guadeloupe towards the close of the year, a most rigid system of quarantine was established against that Island, with the happiest results. The Colony itself was free from all epidemic disease. During a year also that will be ever memorable in the annals of the West Indies, it is satisfactory to reflect that there was no breach of the peace, or any attempt to resist lawfully constituted authority. It is true that upon the first intelligence of the outbreak in Jamaica considerable excitement prevailed among all classes of the community. Rumours of an alarming nature were circulated, which, although upon investigation proved to be either grossly exaggerated or entirely without foundation, still had the effect of creating much apprehension in the minds of the white and more respectable of the coloured This state of feeling, however, was but of brief duration, as upon its becoming known that the disturbances were so summarily put down, popular excitement ceased. I fear, however, there can be but little doubt that the sympathies of the lower orders were almost universally enlisted in favour of the malcontents, and it would be hazardous to venture an opinion as to what might have been the effect produced here had a different result befallen the measures adopted for repressing the outbreak in Jamaica.

I have, &c. (Signed) GEORGE BERKELEY.

His Excellency Governor Walker, C.B., &c.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 8.

Sub-Encl. in

SIR, Colonial Secretary's Office, St. Vincent, August 22, 1865. I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency the abstracts which I have prepared of the births and deaths registered, under "The Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1864," during the year ended the 30th June last.

2. This being the first year that any register has been kept of the births and deaths in this government, no comparison can be had with previous years, and I can only offer to your Excellency a few

remarks upon the figures contained in the annexed tables.

3. The total number of births registered is 1,456,—that of deaths is 1,296, showing an excess of (160) births over deaths during the year. Of this excess, the large proportion of 31, or nearly one fifth, is in the Grenadine district, in a population of about 2,300, giving an actual gain of 1 in 74 of the population. The country districts of this Island give a gain, respectively, as follows,—the Calliaqua district 45, or 1 in 169 of the population; the Windward 53, or 1 in 131; and the Leeward 36, or 1 in 142; the Kingstown district, with its large population of 9,300, shows 5 deaths in excess of births.

St.VINCENT. This may be partly owing to greater accuracy in the report of deaths, because persons dying in Kingstown and in its immediate vicinity (containing a population of about 7,000) are interred in the churchyard in town, and their deaths are reported by the rector; whereas in the country districts public burial-grounds are insufficiently provided, and, as it is known that deaths have occurred there which have not been reported according to law, it is to be presumed that deaths may have occurred which have escaped the vigilance of the registrars.

4. The number of illegitimate births is very large, being 61 per cent. of the whole number for the year. There is not much difference in the proportion in the several districts; the Grenadine district shows the lowest figure, 58 per cent., and the Kingstown district shows the highest, viz. 63 per cent. As compared, however, with the total population, the proportion of illegitimate births is much the same

in each district.

5. The proportion of births in the past year to the population of the Colony is $\cdot 045$, or $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, the proportion among the whites being $\cdot 039$. The proportion of deaths in the past year to the population of the Colony is $\cdot 040$, or 4 per cent, the proportion amongst the whites being $\cdot 044$, or $4\frac{1}{10}$ ths per cent. Among the whites are included the Portuguese shopkeepers and labourers, and the Barbadian white tradesmen and labourers.

6. Comparing these proportions with statistics of Great Britain, we find that whilst the births in the Colony are fully one per cent. more than those in favourable years in Great Britian, our death-rate is

Colony are fully one per cent. more than those in favourable years in Great Britian, our death-rate is nearly double the death-rate of that country; in other words, while our birth-rate is $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. against rather less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., our death-rate is 4 per cent. against 2 per cent. of Great Britain, this latter difference being caused by the high rate of mortality amongst infants and children.

7. Of the deaths during the past year, there are '263, or $26\frac{3}{10}$ ths per cent., of infants under one year of age; and if the number of still-births ('071) is added to these, the deaths reach '334, or nearly $33\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The deaths registered at one and under three years of age give a per-centage of '146 of the whole number; those at three and under five years give '057; and those at five and under fifteen years give a per-centage of '060; thus the deaths registered under fifteen years give the large per-centage of '598, showing that of the persons who have died during the year more than one half had not arrived at maturity.

had not arrived at maturity.

8. With respect to the deaths of infants under one year of age, the proportion in the several districts varies considerably. In the Kingstown district the proportion is only '215, while in the Calliaqua, the Windward, the Leeward, and the Grenadine districts the proportions are respectively '289, '263, '259, and '417. To what cause is this attributable? The inference would be that the presence in the Kingstown district of two and three medical practitioners has conduced to this favourable result; for there being in the Calliaqua and Windward districts (extensive as they are) but one medical practitioner in each, and in the Leeward and Grenadine districts not even one, the inhabitants

of these districts have been without the same opportunities of obtaining medical attendance.

9. Of the causes of death, I may remark that of the 189 under Class A. (zymotic) 184 are cases of fever, intermittent, remittent, and brain. Under Class B. (sporadic) "dropsy" and "consumption" rever, intermittent, remittent, and brain. Under Class B. (sporadic) "dropsy" and "consumption" appear to hold prominent places. In diseases of the stomach, organs of digestion, &c., "diarrhea" is assigned as the cause of 111 deaths, and "dysentery" of 61; while "worms," "difficult dentition," and "thrush," with "tetanus" and "convulsions" among diseases of the brain, nerves, &c., all affecting principally infant life, have carried off 133 persons. In diseases of the lungs, &c., "whooping cough," in the fall of last year, committed frightful ravages, numbering as its victims no less than 145, mostly of the very young. In diseases of the skin, &c., leprosy is given as the cause of death of 8, and young of 6

yaws of 6.

10. In reviewing these figures, it is a matter for grave consideration, whether it would not be wise, and is not possible, to devise some measure for the preservation of infantile life, such as giving stipends to medical men in each district, who should be required to attend to women of the poorer classes in childbirth, and who might be consulted gratuitously concerning sick children, and by the indigent. Valuable assistance might be derived from a class of certificated midwives, and a competent nurse on every estate might be the means of acquiring the confidence of the labourers, and of inducing them to every estate might be the means of acquiring the conndence of the labourers, and of inducing them to evince a preference for residences on the estates; by which, from the care and nursing themselves and their children would receive at the hands of their employers, in excess of what could be obtained amongst themselves within their villages, many valuable lives might be saved. Some measures of this kind are evidently required. The Colony has expended a considerable sum of money, and the planters have been incurring heavy expenses for hospital accommodation, medical attendance, medicines, nurses, &c., in introducing and providing for Indian immigrants as labourers in our fields. medicines, nurses, &c., in introducing and providing for Indian immigrants as labourers in our fields. All this while we have been in ignorance, from want of proper statistics, of the condition of our native population. With these tables before them, all interested in agriculture, and in the advancement generally of the Colony, must be struck with the amount of wealth which is annually being lost by the immense mortality among the young. A little expenditure for the care of infant life might yield a large return, many times more profitable than the introduction, at such heavy expense, of Coolies, who shortly will be draining the treasury for "return passages" to their own country, and who will take with them, to spend there, very considerable amounts of specie, amassed by their labour here, which, had it been paid to a native population, would have remained to circulate in this labour here, which, had it been paid to a native population, would have remained to circulate in this Colony, and, as a matter of course, to reflect back upon the people increased prosperity, and easier circumstances.

11. I regret that the law does not provide for the returns of marriages. Were these included,

additional and very valuable statistical information would be obtained.

12. The appointment of a registrar to each of the islands of the Grenadines is not a satisfactory rangement. To furnish a proper record book to each island would entail considerable and, I think, arrangement. To lurinsh a proper record book to each island would entail considerable and, I think, useless expense. As yet only one set of registers has been provided for the Grenadines, which has been issued to the Registrar of Bequia. The births and deaths during the past year of the smaller islands are entered in books not suited as books of record. I would suggest that the law should be altered, so as to make the registrar in Bequia responsible for the registration of all the islands, allowing him to appoint deputies in each island to report to him the births and deaths for registration

In this way there would be one set of registers for all the Grenadines, with one St. VINCENT. in his books. responsible registrar to supervise the returns, and to correspond with and make returns to the Registrar General. I would also suggest that it should be enacted that the registration of the smaller islands, for

the past year, should be sent in to the Registrar of Bequia, to be recorded in his books.

13. In the first year of the operation of this Registration Act, it was to be expected that difficulties would be experienced by the registrars in getting in the returns. Great care has been given to the subject by the registrars; and some few prosecutions have been instituted to enforce compliance with the Act, more as warnings to others, than for the sake of punishing the delinquents, whose fines have been made almost nominal. On the whole, I am led to believe that the returns have been made with

In succeeding years these difficulties must diminish; and I look forward to the abstracts of the next year as likely to afford, not only in themselves, but by comparison with these for the present year, much valuable information which may be made the basis upon which to found useful legislation for the

people.

His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Berkeley.

I have, &c., (Signed) EDWARD LABORDE, Colonial Secretary, and Registrar-General.

GRENADA.

GRENADA.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 325.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, May 18, 1866. SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1865, together with the usual report thereon by the Lieutenant-Governor. I have, &c.

No. 55 May 9, 1866.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(Signed) JAMES WALKER.

&c. &c.

(No. 55.)

SIR, Government House, Grenada, May 9, 1866. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year ended the 31st of December 1865.

Revenue.

The total fixed revenue during the year 1865 is returned at 20,341l. 12s. 2d., of which 8,897l. 14s. 7d. are the proceeds from imports, 670l. 19s. from tonnage, 1,716l. 19s. 6d. from licences, 1,154l. 12s. 8d. fees of office, 3,777l. 14s. 2d. tax on consumption of rum, 3,1991. 16s. 7d. proceeds of taxes under the annual Supply Act, and 923l. 15s. 8d. miscellaneous receipts, making the total amount collected for the service of the year 20,341l. 12s. 2d. The arrears of revenue for the previous year, amounting to 4,365l. 4s. 4d., made the total available for the service of the year 24,706l. 16s. 6d.

As compared with the previous year there is a decrease of 772l. 10s. 3d., arising chiefly from articles imported from the United States, as well as a decrease of 121l. 11s. 6d. under the head of tonnage. To counterbalance this there appears an increase in the duty collected on rum consumed in the Colony of 751l. 8s. 11d., arising from an increased duty of 6d. per gallon; also in fees of office 157l. 15s. 9d., and of miscellaneous receipts 245l. 4s. 2d., leaving a net increase on the year of 246l. 3s. 4d.

After payment of 19,756l. 10s. 4d. during the year, there remained an available surplus of 4,950l. 6s. 2d. for the service of 1866.

GRENADA.

The following is a comparative statement of the revenue of 1864 and 1865:-

REVENUE.		186	4.		186	5.		Incre	ease.	3
Fixed - In aid -		£ 16,147 3,948	7	d. 0 10	£ 16,319 4,022	3	d. 9 5		s. 16 6	d. 9 7
Arrears	4-	20,095 1,504			20,341 4,365			246	3	4
		21,599	17	9 .	24,706	16	6			

Expenditure.

The expenditure of 1865 exhibited an increase over that of the previous year of 2,521l. 16s. 11d., consisting chiefly of the repayment of a loan from the Water Fund of 687l. 13s. 3d., of 680l. 9s. 11d. to meet an excess of expenditure in the repairs of the public roads during the previous year, and 973l. 3s. 9d. for increased allowances and salaries, and payment of arrears of pensions.

The following is a comparative statement:-

1864.	1865.	Increase.				
		-				
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	\pounds s. d.				
17,234 13 5	19,756 10 4	2,521 16 11				

Local Revenues.

The principal return under this head is that for the immigration service. There have been collected during the year under the Rum Act 1,127l. 5s. 11d., on exports 525l. 5s. 4d., on the re-indenture fee for back passages 1,834l. 8s. 11d., and interest on moneys deposited in colonial bank 152l. 3s. 2d., amounting in all to 3,639l. 3s. 4d., which, with 5,803l. 2s. 10d., the surplus from the previous year, made a total sum of 9,442l. 6s. 2d.

The expenditure for the year for salaries, for the sinking fund and interest, and other incidental expenses amounted to 1,312l. 3s. 4d., leaving a surplus available for 1866

of 8,130l. 2s. 10d.

Public Debt.

That for immigration purposes, amounting to 9,000*l*., is the only one existing, 7,000*l*. of which is guaranteed by the Imperial Government, and 2,000*l*. a local loan.

Legislature.

Eleven Acts were passed during the year, but the legislation has not been of an important character, beyond the Act for registering Births, Deaths, &c., a measure which was much desired, and will no doubt in time furnish valuable and useful information.

Imports and Exports.

The following return exhibits a comparative statement of the imports and exports for the years 1864 and 1865:—

		In	ports.	Exports.				
Countries.		1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.			
United Kingdom British Colonies - Foreign Countries -		£ s. d. 65,832 3 7 43,155 11 4 12,326 4 3	£ s. d. 56,919 7 2 44,899 18 4 12,291 15 0 114,111 0 6	£ s. d. 140,370 14 3 4,900 12 7 7,943 8 8 153,214 15 6	£ s. d. 97,476 18 8 14,335 18 11 6,232 13 5			

The decrease in the exports has arisen from the falling off of the sugar crop, and that in the imports from the United Kingdom from the constant fluctuations in the value of cotton manufactured goods.

GRENADA.

Schools.

The Legislative grant for educational purposes was 1,200l., distributed by a Board of Education, presided over by the Lieutenant-Governor, as follows:—

		£
Grammar School, town of St. George -	-	- 380
Normal do. do	1	- 80
(The head master is also inspector of schools.)		
Schools in connection with the Church of England	-	- 300
Do. Roman Catholic		- 210
Do. Wesleyans -	-	- 120
Rents and other incidental expenses -		1,090 - 110
		1,200

The following table shows the situation of the schools and the number of children attending them:—

	Church	of England.	Roman	Catholic.	Wesleyan.			
Parishes.	No.	Attend- ance.	No.	Attend- ance.	No.	Attend- ance.	Total	
St. George: Grammar School	1	23						
Manus I Calast	- 1	52	_	_				
The second secon	- 2	177	1	30	3	263		
4 Tahm	- 1	72	1	21	_	200		
St. Mark	1	58	1	56	_			
St. Patrick	1	114	1	190				
st. Andrew's -	- 1	70	1	90	1	25		
St. David	1	38	1	55	_	_		
Carriacou	- 1	28	1	31	1	61		
	10	632	7	473	5	349	1,454	

The Grammar and Normal Schools are open to children of all denominations, but very few Roman Catholics or Wesleyans attend them. In the latter six lads are in training as pupil-teachers to supply masters for the schools in the out-districts. In the parish of St. George there is one school supported from the church land revenues granted by the Lieutenant-Governor.

In that of St. John two schools, supported from funds at the disposal of the Bishop. And at St. David one school, supported from the same fund.

Charitable Institutions.

The revenue of the Colony hospital was 204l. 14s. 4d., this with a grant of 500l. from the Legislature was insufficient to meet the expenditure which amounted to 935l. 15s. 10d., leaving the institution in debt 231l. 1s. 6d. This amount has been since provided for by an augmentation of the annual Legislative grant. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 362, of whom 69 were Coolies. There is one medical attendant provided for the poor in each parish of the Island at a salary of 100l. per annum. In Carriacou there is a dispensary established where medicines are dispensed to the poor, and a health officer provided at a salary of 300l.

The poor house is maintained by Legislative grant of 500*l*. per annum under the control of a board of guardians for the relief of the poor and destitute. The number of inmates was 25. There are also 47 persons receiving out-door relief.

The lunatic asylum is also under the superintendence of a board of guardians, and maintained at the public expense. The number of inmates was 19.

The above-named institutions are highly creditable to the Colony.

The Victoria almshouse, intended for the relief of females who had seen better days, is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. There are 10 inmates.

GRENADA.

Gaols and Prisons.

The defective state of the gaol, reported in previous Blue Books, and subsequently by the Commissioners appointed by the Administrator of the Government in 1865, as well as the law for imprisonment of debtors, have not been remedied, although the attention of the Legislature has been frequently called to this important subject.

The following return shows a decrease of 14 both on the convictions by the Supreme Court and by Magistrates; and I am happy to report that none of the convictions by the Supreme Court were for crimes of any magnitude. By this return there appears an increase of 13 debtors, most of whom are persons of the lower class, and imprisoned for debts of small amounts.

	Supreme Court.		Magistrate.		(T)-4-1	Debters
Year.	M.	F.	м.	F.	Total.	Debtors.
1864	16	1	171	32	220	18
1865	8	5	152	41	206	31
					Decrease 14	Increase 13

Agriculture.

The produce of both sugar and cotton were from the rains setting in so early in the year, and from their long continuance, very considerably diminished. Falling prices in both those staples have been most discouraging to the planters. The crops of cocoa, however, were larger, and the prices very remunerative.

Throughout the Colony the cultivation of this valuable staple increases annually, and, should the markets continue remunerative, bids fair before many years to become the

principal export of the Island.

Population.

The population is on the increase, though in the absence of any correct returns it would be difficult to show to what extent. The Island has been very healthy during the year. There has been an abscence of serious crime, and the conduct of the labouring population has been most loyal and satisfactory.

His Excellency Governor Walker, C.B., &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) ROB. M. MUNDY.

Товадо. No. 10.

TOBAGO.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Walker, C.B., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 201.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, June 30, 1866.

No. 44,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the Blue Book for the Colony of Tobago
for the year 1865, together with a Report thereon by Lieutenant-Governor Kortright.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAS. WALKER.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(No. 44.) Sir, Government House, Tobago, June 21, 1866. TOBAGO.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the the Blue Book for the year 1865.

Tariff.

The tariff of import duties was the same as in the previous year, but the Act 24 Victoria, chapter 8, under which all duties paid into the treasury were subjected to an additional duty of 20 per cent., was repealed in May, and the Act 28 Victoria, chapter 8, was passed, increasing the duty to 40 per cent.

The import duties amounted to 3,974l. 13s. 4d. upon 1,851l. 12s. 6d. of which 20 per cent. was received, giving the sum of 370l. 13s. 4d. On the remainder, viz., 2,123l. 0s. 10d., the larger duty of 40 per cent. was charged, yielding the sum of

849l. 1s. 7d.

Revenue.

The arrears of revenue, arising solely from arrearage of taxes on lands and tenements, extending over the years 1862, 1863, and 1864, amounted to no more than 63l. 10s.

The fixed revenue for the year was 5,939l. 16s. 6d., the incidental revenue accruing from fines in petty sessions, rents of public lands and buildings, and rural constables' fees, was 139l. 6s. 6d., and the receipts in aid of revenue, derived from licences for horses and mules, asses, guns, and boats, and from the tax on sugar estates and and other lands and tenements, were 2,616l. 2s. 4d., making the total available revenue, including the arrears of the previous year, 8,758l. 15s. 4d.

Expenditure.

Including the sum of 1,494*l*. 18s. 4d. arrears of expenditure for 1864, the expenditure appears by the Blue Book to have amounted to 10,061*l*. 2s. 8d., but the actual expenditure was not more than 8,566*l*. 4s. 4d., viz.—

		£	S.	d.
Ordinary and fixed expenditure of Government	-	7,400	19	1
Contingent and accidental expenses	-	973	17	6
Disbursements on account of miscellaneous civil services	-	191	7	9
		Application and the second	-	
		8,566	4	4

Excluding therefore the arrears of revenue and expenditure of the previous year, the actual expenditure was less than the actual revenue by 1291. 1s.

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Actual revenue of 1864, not including 62l. 12s. arrears	of	£	s.	d.
previous year	-	8,365 8,695		
Increase in 1865		329	19	9

This increase may be ascribed to the additional 20 per cent. levied on import duties from the 1st June, and to the assessed tax on sugar estates and other lands and tenements having been raised from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent.

A . 1 11. 1					£	S.	d:
Actual expenditure in years amounting to	1,326l. 12s. 1d	l			8,620	0	7
Exdenditure in 1865, 1,494l. 18s. 4d.	not including	arrears of	former	years	8,566	4	4
	Decrease in 1	865			53	16	3

Loans.

In 1847 the Colony borrowed from the Imperial Government 20,000l. at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. interest, for the relief of the sufferers by the hurricane of that year, giving as security for the payment of capital and interest a first lien on the revenues of the Island; the last instalment will be due next year. At the close of 1865 there was a balance of 2,800l. due by the Colony.

18090.

TOBAGO.

Legislation.

Several measures were passed by the Legislature in the course of the year, the most important of which are,-

1. "An Act relating to Lands in the Colony, commonly called the Three Chains

Act."

The intention of this Act was to secure to the contiguous proprietors the belt of land running along the sea-shore, called the Queen's Three Chains, reserved to the Crown, but on which storehouses and other buildings have been pretty generally

2. A new Criminal Code comprised in six Acts.

 "An Act to provide additional Funds in aid of the Revenue of this Island."
 "An Act to increase the Rates and Taxes on Lands, Tenements, and Heredita-" ments in this Island."

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1865 is set down at 47,481l., upon which duties were received amounting to 5,194l. 8s. 3d. In 1864 the imports were valued at 49,782l.,

showing a decrease in 1865 of 2,301l.

The value of exports for 1865 was 46,762l., against 48,961l. in 1864. This falling off may be ascribed to the low price of produce in the home market, and to the continuous wet weather, which prevented the planters from taking their crops off the ground.

Education.

There has been some increase in the number of children attending the schools, as the following returns show:-

Day Schools.				A	ttendance.		
Church of Moravian Wesleyan		•				814 818 572	
	Total in	1865			- 2	2,204	
	Total in	1864		-	- 2	,185	

The above return of the attendance in the Wesleyan Schools embraces both Day and Sunday School scholars, whereas the Church of England and Moravian returns give a separate statement of the numbers attending their respective Sunday Schools as follows :--

Attendance. Sunday Schools. 953 Church of England 469 Moravian -1,421

Agriculture.

The number of estates in cultivation is set down in the Blue Book at 62. I think there must be an error in the return, as I find that in 1863 there were 71 in full cultivation. This discrepancy may in some measure be accounted for from the fact that several estates have lately been sold by order of the Commissioners for sale of Incumbered Estates, and as these properties were some time previously to the sale permitted to go partially out of cultivation, they have probably not yet resumed their full extent of cultivation, and have not therefore been included in the return of estates in cultivation.

This Island possesses the advantage of a proprietary body generally resident in the Island, the proportion of resident to absentee proprietors being, I should say, as four

The cultivation of cotton has increased to a considerable extent, and persons are becoming alive to the benefit of selecting good and unmixed seed for planting, and of bestowing more careful cultivation on the plants than has hitherto been thought

TOBAGO.

Police.

During the year 1865 the Reserve Police Force, composed of discharged soldiers from the West India Regiments, was done away with. These men received a suit of clothing yearly, and sixpence a day, and if called out for service, the regular pay of the police during the time they were so employed. The majority of the men were becoming infirm, and incapable of discharging police duties, and put the Colony to considerable expense. The Inspector of Police, with the sanction of the Executive, entered into an arrangement with a limited number of the most robust and intelligent men, by which they are bound to do duty whenever required, receiving a suit of clothing yearly, and police pay while employed.

Prisons and Prisoners.

The prison called the Common Gaol of Tobago, at Fort King George, is for its size a good and commodious building, but it is not sufficiently extensive to admit of the separate system being fully carried out. As far as practicable, however, the proper classification of the prisoners is observed. The health of the prisoners during the year was good; there was no epidemic disease among them, and all the sickness that prevailed was of a febrile character.

Crime has evidently not increased. The total number of persons committed during the year was 143 males and 31 females, and of these the majority were sentenced to short terms of imprisonment by the police magistrates for petty thefts.

The greatest number of prisoners at any one time was 28 males and 1 female.

General.

The above remarks show that if the Colony has not made any rapid or marked progress, it has not retrograded.

The finances have slightly improved, the Revenue having been rather above that of the previous year, and the Expenditure somewhat less. Education has not been neglected; and considering that each religious body receives only 100*l*. per annum from the Legislature in aid of their schools, I think I may venture to say that it is in a satisfactory state.

Crime has not increased, and the offences for which imprisonment has been awarded,

were not generally of a grievous character.

Legislation was tolerably active; but I cannot allude to this subject without making some remarks on the difficuly of inducing the Legislative Houses to act in concert. The Assembly, as at present constituted, is working well and seems anxious to adopt measures for the good of the Island, particularly such as have a tendency to improve the financial condition of the Colony; but there appears to be a feeling of apathy in the Council which must be a source of irritation to the Assembly, and of embarrassment to the Government. It has thus happened, that on more than one occasion useful measures passed by the Assembly have been lost, either in consequence of the apparent unwillingness of the Members of Council to attend and patiently to weigh the merits of the measures before them, or in consequence of their discussing Bills in their first stages, and then allowing the Session to close without proceeding any farther in the consideration of them.

Far be it from me to say that I believe any feeling of opposition to, or desire to thwart the views of the Assembly exists, but I think the course I have alluded to is more calculated to irritate that body than a rejection of its measures after a fair consideration of them.

In conclusion it is pleasing to me to be able to state, that the population appears happy and contented; and that the labouring class does not exhibit that feeling of antagonism towards the employers, which is to be found in some of the Colonies. This is alike creditable to the masters and to the labourers.

Governor Walker, C.B., &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

SIR,

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 325.)

Government.

No. 80, 17 May 1866.

Windward Islands, Barbados, May 23, 1866. I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1865, together with the usual Report thereon by the Administrator of the

> I have, &c. JAS. WALKER. (Signed)

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c.

(No. 80.)

Government Office, St. Lucia, May 17, 1866.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for 1865, in duplicate, accompanied by the usual Returns. My remarks upon its contents, and the condition of the Colony during that period, need be but brief. There is little to note beyond what has appeared in previous reports, and that little, I regret to add, is not altogether of a favourable character. By this I do not mean to say that the Colony has retrograded, but as the year has, from a financial point of view, been decidedly a bad one, I shall be forced to show, that notwithstanding a loan which was had recourse to in an early part of it, its close, found the general revenue much below the expenditure proper of the period. But notwithstanding this drawback, coupled with the dulness of trade and the loss of crop, sustained by the planters through the heavy rains which deluged the country during great part of the ordinarily dry as well as the wet season, I consider that the Colony has held its ground tolerably well, and I trust there is every prospect of its being in an improved position at the close of the current year.

Revenue.

2. The general revenue fell off to an extent which was certainly not anticipated. It only amounted to 11,550l. 13s. 5d., which was short of the receipts of 1864 by 1,397l. 19s. 4d., although collected from the same sources. To this must be added 1,000l. borrowed from the Roads and Bridges Fund, and a sum of money (176l. 14s. 0d.) transferred from the Loan Fund, making the total amount available as general revenue 12,727l. 7s. 5d.

3. Not only was this amount less than last year, but it also was much below the

estimates.

				£	s.	d.
Estimated general re	evenue for 186	35 -	-	13,912	0	0
Actual ditto for ditt	0 -		-	11,550	13	5
	Difference		-	2,361	6	7
General revenue for	1864			12,948		9
Ditto	1865 -		-	11,550	13	5
	Difference		-	£1,397	19	4

4. The deficiency was mainly caused by the falling off in the import and excise duties. £ s. d.

Decrease			VIDE BUT DE LA COMPINE DE LA C		-
Decrease	-		934	3	0
Ditto in 1865		-60	4,710	8	1
Import duties collected in 1864		-	5,644		
			0	0.	wo

s. d. Rum (excise) duty collected in 1864 -4,476 4 Ditto in 1865 4,023 12 0 Decrease 452 12

ST. LUCIA

5. During the last half of the year an ordinance was in force, under which a policeman was told off in each of the three districts of the island to assist the revenue officers in carrying out the provisions of the excise laws, and more stringent regulations were imposed for this purpose. The deficiency in the duty occurred during the first half of the year, and it may be assumed, therefore, that the new ordinance had some effect in checking evasions of duty which are very generally supposed to prevail. In connection with this subject it may be mentioned, that the result of the first four months of this year have proved satisfactory.

6. A glance at the returns of imports for 1864 and 1865 will show a diminished importation in nearly every article. Ground provisions were plentiful, which may account for the decrease in some of them, but the same reason cannot be assigned for the general diminishment of all articles. The crop was larger than that of the previous year, and but for the heavy rains would have been still greater. The price of cotton goods was lower. The population slightly increased, and yet the fact remains, that there was a very material decrease in the imports. It should be added, that the price of imported provisions was high, and it will be seen from the subjoined table that the consumption of flour fell off nearly 1,000 barrels, which in turn was less by 3,449 barrels than in 1863; and salted meats nearly one half of the amount of the previous year.

		Imported in 1864.	Imported in 1865.	Decrease.
Candles, tallow	cwts.	431	287	144
Cheese	22	72	39	33
Coffee	,,	193	53	140
	barrels	4,789	3,817	972
Cottons and linens -	value	£24,886	£20,571	£4,315
Fish, salted	cwts.	7,039	6,197	842
Ditto, pickled 1	barrels	656	189	467
Lard	cwts.	278	202	76
Meats (salted)	lbs.	174,131	87,874	86,257
Soap	cwts.	1,071	840	231
Tobacco, unmanufactured,	lbs.	60,275	39,440	20,835

7. An additional duty of one half per cent. was imposed upon all imports, with a few trifling exceptions, for the redemption of the loan of 1,000l., already alluded to. It came into force on the 5th of May and produced 176l. 14s. 0d. (net). This, by a special provision in the ordinance, was set against the small amount borrowed the previous year, but the proceeds of this and succeeding years will be applied to redeem

8. The revenue was helped slightly by the speculation which sprang up in satin wood. This wood became, temporarily, it is to be feared, in demand in the home market, and licences were purchased by mercantile houses and others here, to cut timber on portions of the Crown lands, where it was to be found. There is no doubt also that the wages paid to the wood-cutters and to piroguemen and others employed in conveying the wood to the port of shipment had a favourable effect upon trade and so upon the revenue. The sum realized by the sale of licences of two years' duration, was 1921. 18s. 0d., and the number of acres included in them 2,482.

9. The total revenue raised from all sources is shown under its different heads in the annexed table :-

		ol. and	net proce	eeds	£	S.	d.
port du	ty)			-	12,727	7	5
-			-	-	578	18	7
-		-		-	993	3	5
-	-			-	1,764	12	6
		-			171	15	11
		Total			16,235	15	11
	port du	port duty)	port duty)	port dúty)		port duty) 12,727 578 993 1,764 171	port duty) 12,727 7 - 578 18 993 3 1,764 12 171 15

ST. LUCIA.

Export Duties.

10. There was a slight increase in the proceeds of these duties last year, owing to the crop being larger. They amounted to 1,888l. 15s. 5d., which was appropriated as follows:—

Interest on and sin	king fu	nd for re	demptio	on of lo	ans, amo	unt-	£	s.	d.
ing to 18,000l.	-		-			-	1,311	10	9
Education	-					-	158	19	8
Roads and bridges	-	-	-	**		-	418	5	0
				Total			1,888	15	5

Imports and Exports,

						Impo	rts.		Exp	orts.	
						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1861	100					110,063	19	8	96,321	8	2
1862		-		- 1	-	93,606	15	1	87,991	15	0
1863	-		-			69,583	0	0	83,711	17	5
1864		-				90,363		3	111,383	15	11
1865			-			70,757	18	8	107,321	8	4

11. This table shows the value of the imports and exports for the last five years. The decrease in the imports has already been noticed. The sugar exported, though greater in quantity was less in value, which is the main cause of the difference in the exports:—

	Hhds.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Value.
1864	5,539	265	5,308	£95,700
1865	 5,918	529	5,038	£92,404

12. The declared value of satin wood shipped last year was 749l., as against 125l. the previous year. The quantity shipped this year, to date, is 29,910 cubic feet, being 18,692 cubic feet more than the quantity exported in 1864. The declared value is 5,879l.

Expenditure.

13. The general expenditure has been kept down as low as possible, and yet, notwithstanding the money borrowed, the liabilities of the last two months of the year had to stand over until January, when they were paid.

Estimated expenditure of 1865 Amount actually paid during 1865	-	12,300	19	1	14,148		
Arrears paid in January 1866 -		1,470		9			
		Province	AND INCOME.	maratary .	13,770	19	10
Difference -	-				377	4	2

There was no new item of expenditure and nothing which calls for any comment.

14. The total expenditure of the Colony is shown in the subjoined table:—

the total expenditure of the colony to brown in the	SUDJE	Jiiica can	110 0	-	
General expenditure including arrears (1,470l. 0s. 9	d.)	£	s.	d.	
paid this year	-	13,770	19	10	
Education including arrears (2481.) paid this year		1,216	5	9	
Immigration, including interest on and sinking fu					
for the redemption of the guaranteed loan	of				
15,000 <i>l</i>	-	2,720	15	7	
Roads and bridges, including interest on and sink					
fund for the redemption of the guaranteed le	oan				
of 3,000 <i>l</i> .	-	820	5	9	
Military property fund	-	108	11	4	
Loan fund (cost of collection)	-	9	7	2	
				_	
		18,646	5	5	
					27

Public Debt.

15. The investment in the three per cent. reduced annuities to form the sinking fund for the redemption of the guaranteed loans (18,000l.) amounted at the close of the year

to 5,144l. 11s. 1d. The only other liability, which, however, cannot be classed as a St. Lucia. public one, is the 1,000l. borrowed from the Roads and Bridges Fund, for the repayment of which ample provision has been made.

Roads and Bridges.

16. Owing to the damage done to the roads by the heavy rains, a larger amount of hired labour was employed upon them than the previous year. The excess of expenditure was about 270l.

Local Revenue and Expenditure.

17. The Corporation raised during the year 1865 for the purposes of the town 6991. 7s., which was 791. 6s. 9d. less than the previous year. Their expenditure (according to the published account) was only 5031. 3s. 1½d., but it does not include 170l. due to the Colony for the services of the police placed at their disposal.

Of this sum their establishment cost 252l. 8s. 4d., namely,-

Salary of town clerk and treasurer, printer, and clerk of the	£	S.	d.
market	206	13	4
Rent of town hall	30	0	0
Fee to revising barrister and assessor -	15	15	0
	252	8	4

18. A comparison of this amount with the revenue collected forms an argument in favour of an opinion that I have very often heard expressed, namely, that the institution is unsuited to the capacity of the place. Before the municipality was established, the service of the town was performed by unpaid town wardens, and no frevenue collected, except through the Treasury. There can be no doubt that under this system a larger sum could be spent on the town without increasing the burden borne by the ratepayers.

Legislation.

19. Twelve Ordinances were passed by the Legislature during 1865, all of which have been confirmed. They are given below in chronological order, with a brief explanation

of the object and scope of each.

Ordinance No. 1, 14th January. This is an Ordinance amending and consolidating the laws relating to immigration. It consolidates the effective portions of 15 Ordinances, ranging from 1836 to 1863, and introduces the more recent modifications in the immigration system, which from time to time have received the sanction of the Secretary of State.

No. 2, 9th March. This Ordinance effects a change in the times of holding the Criminal Sessions of the Royal Court. Under the previous law these sessions (three in number during the year) were commenced on fixed days of the month, and consequently when that day fell on a Friday or Saturday both inconvenience was occasioned to witnesses and jurors coming from a distance, as the Court had frequently to adjourn over Sunday, and additional expense to the Colony. The present Ordinance substitutes the fourth Tuesday in February and the second Tuesday in June and October as the day on which the business shall commence, so that, except in a very exceptional case, the sittings will be held from day to day until the business is disposed of.

No. 3, 9th March. The supplementary estimates for 1864 are covered by this

Ordinance.

No. 4, 5th May. Power is given by this Ordinance to borrow (if necessary) 1,000l. from the Roads and Bridges Fund to be applied to the deficiency in the general revenue in 1864, and to the anticipated deficiency in 1865, and for the purpose of repaying the loan (with four per cent. interest) an ad valorem duty of half per cent. is laid upon all articles imported into the Colony, with a few trifling exceptions. This tax is to be collected up to the 1st January 1870, with the proviso that it shall cease whenever enough money has been collected to pay off the loan.

No. 5, 25th May. This Ordinance establishes regulations for the more efficient collection of duties imposed upon rum made and consumed within the Colony. Under it the excise staff is increased, and greater powers conferred upon them. The obligations upon distillers are in some cases more clearly defined, and penalties attached to breaches of them. Altogether the excise law is much improved by this Ordinance, and it is expected

that under it the revenue from this source will be increased.

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No. 6, 20th July. This is the Annual Tax and Appropriation Ordinance for 1866. The only alteration of any importance in it consists of an augmentation in the price of licences to distil rum and other spirits. Hitherto the price of one has been so small (10s.) that it might be considered more as a fee for registration than as imposed for revenue purposes; but one of the principal reasons for raising the price is to check the use of small stills. A more effective supervision can also be exercised over a few large stills than over a number of small ones scattered throughout the Colony, and much benefit is expected to result from this measure. The charge is regulated by the capacity of the still, as is shown by the following table:-

> 15 Licence for a still not exceeding 100 gallons Ditto exceeding 100 gallous and not exceeding 200 gallons 20 300 25 200 Ditto 99 30 Ditto 300

Thirty-six licences were taken out last year under the nominal charge, and only 19 this year under the new scale.

No. 7, 20th July. Since the year 1855 Ordinances of short duration have been passed, raising the export duty on logwood from 2s. to 8s. per ton. The present Ordinance simply continues the duty at this rate permanently.

No. 8, 22d August. This Ordinance was passed to correct a mistake which had taken

place in connection with the jurors' lists for the ensuing year.

No. 9, 22d August. In previous Reports the immigrant hospital system has been frequently noticed. Towards the close of 1861, Government hospitals were established at Castries, Soufriere, and Vieux Fort, to which the planters were obliged to send the sick immigrants in their employ. These were attended by medical officers, salaried by Government, who also visited the sick upon the estates. Towards the support of the system, each employer was required to pay 10s. per annum for each immigrant indentured to him, and 6d. per diem subsistence money when any of his people were in hospital. As the indentures of each shipment of immigrants determined, it was thought advisable to allow them to enjoy the advantages of the system gratuitously; but at last so few remained under indenture that the expense became more than the Immigration Fund could conveniently bear, which necessitated an alteration. Under this Ordinance, therefore, power was given to the Governor to suspend the clauses in the Consolidated Immigration Ordinance relating to the medical treatment of immigrants, and during that suspension it was provided that the employers of indentured immigrants should be bound to furnish them with proper medical attendance, the medical tax being The hospitals were accordingly closed on the 31st December, and arrangements made by the employers of the few immigrants remaining under indenture in accordance with the Ordinance. It should be added that an establishment is still kept up in Castries (the immigration depôt) for the gratuitous admission of unindentured immigrants who may be labouring under "extreme sickness, age, or great infirmity."

No. 10, 22d August. In 1852 an export duty of one penny per pot (two quarts) was placed upon "farine manioc," an article which enters very largely into consumption in this Colony. It is beyond doubt that in reality this was a prohibitory duty, and that its object was to prevent labourers from cultivating the article largely, instead of working upon the estates. It was introduced and passed upon the earnest recommendation of the planting interest at the board, and it need hardly be added that the real object was

not avowed.

Since that time the revenue produced has been practically nothing, and it has been thought advisable to repeal the tax, by which means not only will producers be able to take advantage of more favourable markets than the home market, but it may be expected that a channel of relief will be found for the stock, which in some seasons is over abundant, and falls below a remunerative price.

No. 11, 24th October. This Ordinance was passed to enable the Government to borrow 660l. from the Immigration Fund, for the purchase of a dredge to deepen the water near the wharves of the port of Castries. It has been ordered, but has not yet

arrived.

No. 12, 30th December. As there was no quarantine law in the Colony, and the cholera was raging in the Island of Guadeloupe, this Ordinance was passed "to prevent the introduction of contagious and infectious diseases into this Island." Under it the Governor in Council is empowered to make from time to time rules, orders, and directions concerning quarantine and the prevention of infection, and a penalty not exceeding 201. is attached to a breach of any of them.

Education.

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20. Although no new school was established last year, none were given up. Annexed is a return which shows the increase and decrease of scholars on comparing 1864 with 1865. The Roman Catholic Committee expended upon schools, under the direction of the clergy of that church, 635l. 10s., and the Protestant Committee 575l., of which 469l. was handed over to the trustees of the Mico schools. In addition to this the trustees expended 993l. 10s. 4d., making (with some additional charges) the total amount devoted to education 2,209l. 16s. 1d. No charge is made to the scholars. One of the rules, which is binding upon the Board of Education, is, that no grant shall be made to any school in which the English language is not effectually taught, and in which the general instruction shall not be conveyed in that tongue to all pupils who can understand it sufficiently. All the schools referred to obtain Government grants, and they are therefore all under the operation of this rule. By this means the growing generation are taught to speak English, as well as the barbarous dialect which is substituted by the native population for French, and is a corruption of it. Besides the public and free schools, there are two private seminaries returned in the Blue Book, one in which 39 girls are instructed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and the other conducted by a lady, who has 17 pupils, two boys and fifteen girls. The Nuns' School is of great utility to the families who cannot afford to send their children to Europe for education, and is very well conducted. The other I have had no opportunity of forming an opinion about.

Numbers of scholars,-

		1864.	1865.	Increase.	Decrease.
Mico schools - Roman Catholic schools	-	925 798	893 885	0 87	32
Total -	-	1,723	1,778	87	32

Prisoners.—Crime.

21. The number of prisoners committed to gaol last year was 581; of these 12 had been convicted once, 16 twice, and 6 three or more times before. This is an increase of 59 over the previous year. The number tried at sessions was only 38, of whom 30 were convicted and eight acquitted. There was no capital case. The other commitments were from the magistrates' courts, and for trifling offences. Sixty-nine of the persons committed were Coolies, for absenting themselves without leave, refusing to work, assaults, &c.

Agriculture.

22. The crops of this Colony have remained almost stationary for years. In some years a little more sugar is produced, and in others a little less; but the great difference which appears in the annual returns of some of the other Colonies, caused by the abandonment of estates on account of low prices and want of credit, and the loss from exceptional weather, does not obtain here. The following table shows the amount of produce exported for the last six years:—

			Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.	Cotton.
			lbs.	Gallons.	Gallons.	lbs.	lbs.
1860		-	7,958,165	122,400	29,221	212,482	105.
1861	-	-	9,594,000	115,680	11,040	238,213	
1862		-	8,762,415	104,800	8,275	191,392	
1863	-	-	8,725,125	111,200	15,299	251,732	1,650
1864		-	8,110,025	126,900	2,070	221,757	18,296
1865		-	8,579,146	119,900	16,638	289,097	11,390

The crop of 1864 was affected by the unusual drought which prevailed, and that of last year by the heavy rains. But for these circumstances the returns ought to have equalled those of the preceding years. And, considering that the Colony has gone to great expense in importing foreign labour, it is far from satisfactory to observe the least diminution of the staple articles of export. Indeed an increase, and that an appreciable one, might very reasonably have been expected to have resulted from this outlay. It should be noticed that the greater part of the rum manufactured in the Colony is consumed here. The production of cotton seems to be falling off.

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Population.

23. Correcting the numbers arrived at in the Census taken in 1861 by subsequent returns, it would appear that the population of this Colony consisted, at the close of the year, of 29,444 persons, of whom 14,535 were males, and 14,907 females.

Immigration.

24. During the last year two more lots of Coolies completed their five years' service under contract. Those by the "Victor Emanuel" in February and by the "Zemindar" in April. There only remain under indenture those who arrived in the "Ulysses" in February 1862, and a few of the Africans by that vessel and the "Damietta." The regular reports of the magistrates, medical officers, and Immigration Agent have been uniformly favourable. The results of the hospitals, as compared with the previous year, are shown in the following table:-

					1864.	1865.
Coolies admitted		_			470	473
" discharged	-		-		442	489
, died -		-		-	18	19
Africans admitted			-	-	17	26
" discharged		-		-	20	23
. died -	_		-	-	1	3

At the close of the year there were 1,109 Coolies known to be in the Island, of whom 1,050 were actually upon estates. Owing to their wandering habits, and to the fact that some have retired into the more remote parts of the Island, it is difficult, now that so many are unindentured, and free to go where they like, to obtain a very accurate account of them. 251 Coolies and 22 Africans remain under indenture at the present time. From the gaol books it appears that 69 Coolies were imprisoned during 1865. Of the former, seven were convicted before the Royal Court, and sentenced to periods of imprisonment varying from three years to six months. The others were for the most part commitments from the Court of Petty Sessions for assaults and other trifling offences, and for being absent from the estates to which they were indentured without leave. 793 certificates of discharge were issued during the year, and 87 licences to leave the Colony. In May 1867, the first lot of Coolies, those who were brought here in 1859 by the "Palmyra," will be entitled to claim a free passage back to India; but a provision has been made in the Consolidated Immigration Ordinance, under which the Governor is empowered in such cases, with their consent, to make them a grant of Crown land instead. The health of the immigrants throughout the year has been very good. The greatest number of Coolies upon any estate is about 50.

25. The cost of hospitals and medical attendance for 1865 was 1,234l. 3s. 10d.

this, only 4621. 5s. 6d. was defrayed by the proceeds of the Medical Tax and Subsistence

Money, &c., leaving the balance (772l.) to be borne by the Immigration Fund.

&c.

I have, &c.

J. M. GRANT, (Signed)

His Excellency James Walker, Esq., C.B., Governor in Chief,

&c.

Administrator.

ANTIGUA. No. 12.

ANTIGUA.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 55.) Leeward Islands, Antigua, 26th May 1866. I have the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book of this Island for 1865, and also a short report thereon, which I have requested Mr. Baynes, the Colonial Secretary, to prepare for me.

I have, &c. The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., BENJ. C. C. PINE. (Signed) &c.

Sir, Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, 19th May 1866.

I have the honour, in compliance with your Excellency's directions, to submit a few observations on the Blue Book of this Colony for the past year.

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Taxes and Duties.

1. The duties upon imports, and the taxes upon licences to retail wine, spirits, malt, &c., which are now levied under annual Acts, have been continued at the rates imposed in the previous year. The duty on rum consumed in the Colony has been increased from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per gallon, and the excise duty has been continued to the 31st December 1866.

2. Under the authority of an Act passed in the month of October, special taxes have been imposed upon persons engaged in commerce, and upon persons exercising certain professions, trades, and callings.

A tax of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per centum has been levied upon the salaries of the public officers and upon the stipends of the clergy. The incomes of agricultural attorneys and overseers have also been charged with a modified income tax at the following rates, viz.:—

			£				£	S.	d.	
Where t	the income	exceeds	100		-	-	2	10	0	
"	,,	"	200			-	5	0	0	
,,	,,	,,	400	-	-	-	10	0	0	

Profits arising from the ownership or occupation of land have not been taxed. These taxes were raised in order to guarantee the repayment of a loan of 3,000l. borrowed from the Colonial Bank. The rates were made payable in April 1866, and the duration of the Act was limited to one year.

3. A reference to the tables of taxes and duties will show that few assessed taxes are raised in this Colony, the greater portion of the revenue being derived from import, export, and tonnage duties.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue is stated in the returns prepared at the Treasury as 40,509l. This sum includes 406l. of revenue of previous years collected in 1865, and 8,493l. the aggregate of several loans obtained in aid of the revenue. The neat revenue was 32,016l., of which 21,800l. was derived from import, export, and tonnage duties. The actual expenditure was about 43,670l.

5. The excess of expenditure over the revenue was 11,654l.; 8,493l. of this deficiency was met by the loans before mentioned, and a Bill was passed early in the present year for imposing an additional duty of 25 per cent. on the amount of the existing import duties, in order to meet the balance of the deficiency. The amount of uncollected taxes at the close of the year stood thus:—

", 1865 House tax, 1863		
	-	880 226
Horse and carriage tax, 1863	-	107
Record tax	-	24

Not more than 1,700l. of these arrears will be available towards the liquidation of the large balance appearing against the Colony on account of the year 1865. The warrants for the recovery of the house tax and the horse and carriage tax issued in 1863 still remain open and uncollected in the office of the Marshal; but it is to be feared that the sums due on them are now lost to the Colony.

6. Part of the increased expenditure may be explained by the following items, viz.:-

Interest and sinking fund of waterworks loan		£ 1,270
Cost of publishing new edition of the laws Liabilities of 1864 paid in 1865	-	358 3,184
		4,812

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besides an additional outlay on account of the Board of Health and Quarantine expenses occasioned by the alarming intelligence which reached the Colony in the month of October last of the breaking out of cholera in Guadeloupe.

7. The estimates prepared by the Administrative Committee show that the revenue

of 1866 will fall short of the settled expenditure by about 8,000l.

Public Debt.

8. The addition to the Public Debt of the Colony during the year 1865 was as follows:--

Loan for the constituent of water works	-			£ 24,500
Due to public officers and the clergy, &c., a of the year Due to Colonial Bank at close of the year		the	close	3,833 2,999
				31,332

making the total Public Debt 54,8081.

9. The following is a statement of the Public Debt :-

Debt.	When contracted.	To whom due.
£ s. d.		
10,000 0 0	1844	Her Majesty's Government, Earthquake Loan.
2,000 13 10	1862	Holders of market debentures.
24,500 0 0	1865	Holders of waterworks debentures.
2,500 0 0	1865	Holders of debentures of loan in aid of revenue.
0,0.	1846 to 1865	Savings Bank.
$2,999 9 0\frac{1}{2}$	1865	Colonial Bank, for loan in aid of revenue.

Legislation.

10. Seventeen Acts have been passsed during the year, seven of which relate to the revenue, and three to quarantine and public health. Of the other Acts the most important are:—

"An Act for the Prevention of the stealing of Cotton."
This enactment was rendered necessary in consequence of the facility with which stolen cotton was disposed of in the city of St. John.

"The amended Education Act."

This Act continues the allowance of 1,000*l*. per annum for educational purposes, and provides that grants may be made by the Commissioners of Education to schools for the industrial classes fulfilling the following conditions:—

I. Schools in which the daily average attendance shall not be less than 20.

II. Schools in which a small sum is exacted weekly or monthly from each pupil.

The Act also provides for stipends to pupil teachers, and for the examination of teachers appointed to schools receiving Government aid. The Act is to continue in force for three years.

"An Act to make Provision for the Establishment and Maintenance of a Public "cemetery."

This is one of the most important Acts that has been passed for many years. It makes ample provision for the establishment of a Public Cemetery at a distance of not more than half a mile from St. John's, and empowers the Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor for the purposes of the Act to allot appropriate portions of the cemetery for the uses of the Established Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the Presbyterian and Moravian Churches, and of the Wesleyan Mission. The Governor is empowered, as soon as the cemetery shall be ready and in a fit condition for the interment of the dead therein, to prohibit burials within the city of St. John.

Schools.

11. The Report of the Commissioners of Education is herewith enclosed.

12. The attendance in the schools during 1864 and 1865 was as follows:

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				Average A	ttendance.
Church of England Do.	l, 1864 1865			- 98 - 88	59 32
				Decrea	
Moravian -	1864	-	-	86	31
Do.	1865		-	- 79	95
				Decrea	se 66
					193
Wesleyan -	1864			- 27	71
Do	1865			- 28	
				Increa	se 10
				Total decrea	se 183
		Y			

Imports.

13. The value of Imports and Exports for the last three years is as follows:—

				Imports.	Exports.
				£	£
1863	-		-	173,912	239,630
1864		-	-	178,789	80,333
1865	-		-	165,388	192,632

14. The quantity of sugar, rum, molasses, and cotton shipped is as follows:-

Produce of the Island.

			Sugar.	Rum.	Molasses.	Cotton.
				70		
1863 -			Hhds.	Puns.	Puns.	Lbs.
		-	11,929	939	6,018	-
1864	-	-	3,451	50	1,750	26,000
1865 -		-	9,882	485	4,419	112,224

Shipping.

	En	tered.	Clo	eared.
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1863	- 437	26,253	459	28,341
1864	- 478	22,532	503	20,492
1865				

General Observations.

15. But for the depressed condition of the public finances of the Colony the retrospect for the past year would have been highly satisfactory. The long and severe drought which afflicted the Colony during 1863 and 1864 terminated in the beginning of 1865, and the Island was blessed with propitious weather. The sugar crop has not been very far below the general average. A considerable extent of waste land has been reclaimed, and planted in cotton, and a comparatively large quantity of that article exported. There has been no lack of employment for the industrious labourer, and crime has considerably decreased. The returns of the Registrar General show that the mortality in 1865 was the lowest of the last four years. Useful laws have been passed for the protection of the public health, the works for supplying the city with wholesome water commenced, and provision made for establishing the much-needed extra-mural cemetery for the city of St. John and its vicinity. The negro villages throughout the Colony have, under the direction of the Board of Health, been inspected, and their sanitary condition much improved.

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16. The prospects for 1866 are encouraging. It is calculated that the sugar crop will be equal to the average of the last five years, and that the cotton crop will be nearly four times as large as that of the preceding year.

I have, &c. (Signed)

His Excellency Sir Benjamin C. C. Pine, &c. &c. &c.

EDWIN D. BAYNES,

Colonial Secretary.

Sub-Encl. in No. 12.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 12.

REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION for the Year 1865.

The Commissioners of Education beg leave to report that, owing partly to the distress and poverty for the last three years prevalent in the Island, from which the labouring population is but now beginning to recover, partly to the payment of fees, by every child not actually destitute, being strictly enforced, and partly to the fever and sickness generally, to which, during the latter portion of the year. most of the country districts have been subjected, there has been no improvement either in the number attending the schools, or in the regularity of their attendance; still, on the whole, educational prospects are brighter than at the close of last year, and the Commissioners have every reason to hope that at the end of the present and each succeeding year they will be in a position to report more favourably both of the comparative excellence of the schools, and of the evidence of good resulting from them.

The year closed with 51 schools, 23 of which were Church of England, 19 Moravian, and 9 Wesleyan schools. Among the few changes during the year we may mention the re-opening of the Wesleyan School at Seaton's Village, attended with some success, and the enrolment of their Ragged School in August Town, among the number of those receiving Government aid. With the assistance of the Church Aid Society, a new and commodious school building of stone, much needed, and erected on a more suitable site, has replaced the old one at Darby's Village, to which the Commissioners were glad to be able to make a special grant of 6l. in aid of necessary furniture.

The attendance in the schools throughout the year was:

Church or Denomination	n.	Number on the List.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage in average Attendance.
Church of England		1,445	832	57.7
Moravian -	-	1,389	795	57.2
Wesleyan -	•	494	281	56.8
		3,328	1,908	57.3

being a decrease of 350 on the list, and 183 in average attendance, on the year 1864.

Many of the schools were, at the commencement of the year, in need of books, maps, &c. This need was met by a grant of 80*L*, divided among the three religious bodies according to the average attendance in the schools for the year 1864; 36*L* 13s. 9d. falling to the lot of the Church schools, 32*L* 18s. 10d. to the Moravian, and 10*L* 7s. 5d. to the Wesleyan. With these essentials, therefore, the schools are thoroughly supplied for the present year.

Numerous changes, for the most part beneficial, have been found necessary among the teachers. The demand for thoroughly competent men as masters is becoming more general, and this demand will be accompanied, as such demands always are, by a corresponding supply. The slow but evident decrease of inefficient teachers throughout our schools is a proof of this, and one of the chief sources

of encouragement for the future.

At the close of the year 79 teachers were employed, including assistants. The total salaries, according to the quarterly returns, amounted to 1,515l. 16s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$., an average of rather more than

191. to each teacher for the year.

In order to omit no means by which a staff of well-qualified teachers may be maintained, it is proposed to establish pupil teachers in schools having an average attendance of not less than 40, with salaries of 5l. per annum each. The grant of 3l. 18s. per quarter towards the maintenance of two young persons at the Spring Gardens Girls' Training School has been continued during the past year. The second examination of teachers will be held at Easter. For ordinary candidates the subjects will be the same as last year. To those who passed in the first class last year a prize of 5l. will be

given on satisfying the examiners in an examination of a somewhat higher order. The gratuities of 8l., 4l., and 2l. per annum, for the three classes respectively, has been continued up to the present time, and should the Commissioners be in a position to do so, they may slightly increase them after the next examination.

The whole sum expended on the schools, as shown by the Returns, was 1,539l. 14s. 9d., while the total income from the Island, including the grant for the year of 6941. 15s. 3½d., amounted only to

While, as has been stated, the number of children in attendance has been lessened (the Commissioners trust only temporarily) by enforcing the payment of school fees, still the amount collected under this head from a smaller number of children was in excess of the year 1864 by 86l. 15s. 2d., a welcome addition to the limited income of the schools.

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The Commissioners have little favourable to report concerning the progress of the schools. In some few exceptional cases, improvement in discipline and general management is manifest, and comparative proficiency in the elements of essential subjects has been attained by the first class. Rather more than one third of the number at present on the list are able to read the Scriptures, and really

fluent and intelligent reading is to be met with occasionally in our best schools.

It is often found difficult to prevail on parents to purchase copy books and slates (on this account the latter articles are sometimes provided by the schools), and this difficulty taken into consideration, on the whole there is reason to be satisfied with the efficiency shown in writing. In spelling from dictation, a matter of primary importance, there is still room for much improvement in the majority of the schools. of the schools. The per-centage of errors on the number of words written has ranged from 6 to 28.5, while 5.5 per cent. is considered a fair standard which should be reached by the first class in all juvenile and mixed schools. The three best schools were English Harbour Church School, Cedar Hall Juvenile School, and Greenbay Juvenile School, both Moravian.

There are 20 per cent. of the number on the books learning to make figures, 34 per cent. working the simple rules, and 11 per cent. have advanced as far as the compound and higher rules. has been made in arithmetic, though, in the aggregate, the schools can not be said to have lost ground

in this subject.

While the fair acquaintance with the main outlines of Scripture history evinced by the more advanced pupils in many of the schools is highly encouraging, the confused and fragmentary know-ledge possessed by the great mass of the children in others is equally painful. The remedy for this is tact on the part of the master to enable him to fix the attention of all the children, together with is tact on the part of the master to enable him to fix the attention of all the children, together with clearness and perspicuity in his oral instruction to them; and a master possessing these qualifications, it is hoped, will ere long be in charge of each of the schools.

The quarterly summaries of attendance, together with the Balance Sheet showing the state of the funds of the Commissioners of Education at the close of the year, are appended.

(Signed) G. W. Westerby, Chairman pro tem.

1865. Jan. 1.	Balance in hand from 1864 Cash at various times	£ 13 1,00	0 17	7 3		8.	d.
	N.B.—Of which, 2001, the amount due for quarter ended 10th November, has not yet been received.				1,130	17	3
April. July. Oct.	Cranted to 51 schools - 169 8 10 Granted to 50 schools - 175 14 6 Granted to 51 schools - 182 11 8	£	S.	d.	£	s.	d.
		527	15	0			
May	Granted to the schools for purchase of books, &c. Granted to Spring Gardens Girls' Training	80	0	0			
	School		14	0			
	Granted to Mico Institution - Gratuities to schoolmasters of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd	4	1	0			
Oct. 12.	class Granted to Darby's New School, towards the		10	8			
Dec 10	purchase of necessary furniture	6	0	0			
Dec. 12.	Remitted to England for registers and diaries -	16		8			
***	Bill of Exchange for above remittance	0		0			
	Carriage 4s., porterage 4d Postages to England 2s., from England 1s. 6d., stationery 4s	0	4 7	4			
	Printing at various times	0 2	6	6			
	Inspector's salary, 10 months and 9 £ s. d. days, at 2001. per annum - 171 1 4		0	U			
	Inspector's salary for 1 month and 21 days, at 150 <i>l.</i> per annum - 21 5 0						
		192	16	4			
	Grants made for quarter ended 31st December not yet paid, viz.:—	877	5.	6			
	Granted to 51 schools 166 13 7 Granted to Spring Gardens Girls'						
	Training School 3 18 0						
	Granted to Mico Institution - 2 2 0 Granted to schoolmasters of 1st,						
	2nd, and 3rd class 11 0 0	183	13	7			
	Balance	-		-	1,060 69		1 2
				_	£1,130		_

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

ANTIGUA.

TABLE No. 1. Summary of the Quarterly Returns.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS.

	1			Atte	endance.				Rec	ceipts.						Expen	ditu	ire.			
Quarter ended.	of Schools.	of Teachers.		of Nan he Boo		ttend-															
	No. of Sci No. of Te Boys. Girls. Total.		Average Attendance.	School Fees. Amount Grant					Sal	Books and Apparatus.			Total Expenditure returned.		ure						
March 31st - June 30th - Sept. 30th - Dec. 31st -	25 23 23 23	41 41 41 36	808 819 846 804	596 601 658 648	1,404 1,420 1,504 1,452	836 837 899 754		s. 10 12 5 11	$d.$ $4\frac{3}{4}$ $1\frac{1}{2}$ 9 8	£ 73 75 80 72		d. 10 2 5 7	£ 170 159 171 169	16 1	91	£ 2 4 4 0	s. 8 1 5 7	$d.$ $3\frac{1}{2}$ 2 0 6	£ 172 163 175 170		d 2 11 11 7
							115	19	$11\frac{1}{4}$	301	9	0	671	5	$9\frac{1}{2}$	11	1	$\overline{11\frac{1}{2}}$	682	7	9
							Mor	AV	IAN	School	s.										
March 31st - June 30th - Sept. 30th - Dec. 31st -	19 19 19 19	30 29 30 30	746 768 779 763	617 639 643 600	1,363 1,407 1,422 1,363	811 836 827 704	34 33 32 26	14 9 7 1	5½ 8 6 11	70	15 3 11 5	8	144 141 146 146	16	10 0	1 6 3	3 0 12	0 5 10	Wenter.	17 14	3
							126	13	$6\frac{1}{2}$	275	16	4	578	6	10	10	16	3	589	3	1
							WE	SLE	YAN	Scноо	LS.										
March 31st - June 30th - Sept. 30th - Dec. 31st -	7 8 9 9	12 14 15 13	237 246 279 227	208 242 290 246	445 488 569 473	255 288 321 260		0 12	$ \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ 10 \\ 4 \\ 10\frac{1}{2} \end{array} $	27 30 31 28	8 8 8 4	8 3	62 69 70 64	11 3	2 4	0 0	$\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{2}{14}$	10 9 6	63 69 70 65	3 13 3 3	11
							38	18	$10\frac{1}{2}$	117	9	11	266	3	10	2	0	1	268	3	11
							GEN	VER	AL S	SUMMAI	RY.										
March 31st - June 30th - Sept. 30th - Dec. 31st -	51 50 51 51	83 84 86 79	1,832 1,904	1,482 1,591	3,212 3,315 3,495 3,288	1,902 1,961 2,047 1,718	75 74		$\begin{array}{c} 8\frac{1}{4} \\ 7\frac{1}{2} \\ 7 \\ 5\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	169 175 182 166	18	6 4	376 371 387 380	4 7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	10	14 4 17 2	$1\frac{1}{2}$ 4 10 0	381 381 395 381	11 9 5 8	1
							281	12	41/4	694	15	3	1,515	16	$5\frac{1}{2}$	23	18	$3\frac{1}{2}$	1,539	14	(

G. W. Westerby, Chairman pro tem.

TABLE No. 2.

	Centesimal Proportion of Children learning															Re-
Сникси			То	Read.			To Write.			Arithmetic.						Child
OR DENOMINATION.	Alphabet.	Mono syllables.	Easy Les- sons.	More diffi- cult Nar- ratives.	Books of general Lessons.	Holy Bible.	On Slates from Copies.	On Paper from Copies.	On Slates from Dic., tation.	Making Figures.	Simple Rules.	Compound Rules.	Reduction, Bills of Parcels, &c.	Proportion andhigher Rules.	Girls learning to Sew.	Number of Children to whom the Re-
Church of England	26.9	23.4	14.6	12.5	22.2	31.7	34.3	23.6	19.4	19.8	33.6	5.8	1.5	2.6	17.1	1,452
Moravian -	24.4	19.8	22.9	16.8	16.7	38.6	34.2	27.2	33.9	19.3	34.4	9.3	1.2	3.6	18.7	1,363
Wesleyan -	21.3	30.2	17.5	18.6	17.1	37.8	51.1	23.4	26.4	24.3	40.1	5.3	0.6	2.7	15.6	478
General percentage	25	22.9	18.4	15.2	19.2	35.4	36.6	25.1	26.4	20.5	34.9	7.2	1.2	0.3	17.6	3,288

The tables of registration of births and deaths for the year 1865 being submitted to me, I have few remarks to make on them, as they do not differ in any very material respect from those commented on in the preceding year. The number of still-births, as regards the total number of births, is less than in the preceding year, but still far above the mean average of the largest cities in Europe.

The total number of births in 1864 was 1,407

"" 1865 , 1,417

The still-births in - 1864 were 183
" " 1865 , 164

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The birth-rate for 1865 has been, including still-births, 3.89 per cent., or 389 to every 10,000 ANTIGUA. inhabitants. In the several parishes the birth-rate has been as follows:-

> Parish of St. John -3.80 per cent. St. Mary 3.87 St. Paul 3.89 99 St. Philip 4.26 99 99 St. Peter 3.65 99 99 St. George 4.12 22

The still-births were 164, or 1 in every 8.64 of the births; of the 580 legitimate births, 34 were still-

born, or 1 in every 17.35; and of the illegitimate births, 8.37, were still-born, or 1 in every 6.43.

Table No. 1 shows the proportion of legitimate to illegitimate still-births in the several parishes.

The legitimate births throughout the Island have been 40.93 per cent., and the illegitimate 59.06

The death-rate for the year 1865 has been 4.29 per cent., or 429 to every 10,000 inhabitants; and as regards the several parishes was as follows:-

> Parish of St. John 5.1 per cent. St. Mary 2.98 St. Paul 3.49 99 St. Philip 2.94 22 ,, St. Peter 4.23 99 99 St. George 4.

Table No. 2 shows the duration of life of infants of one year old and under throughout the Island. During the latter period of the year remittent fever of a dynamic character was prevalent throughout the Island, and several cases of yellow fever were reported as terminating fatally in some instances. The occurrence of yellow fever in conjunction with the bilious remittent would lead us to suppose that the late Dr. Musgrave was in the right when he assumed the diseases to be identical, varying only in severity of attack; an opinion in which, however, Dr. Blair of Demerara, and a talented physician of our Island, Dr. Thomas Nicholson, do not coincide, looking on it, on the contrary, as a disease "sui generis."

E. D. Baynes, Esq., Colonial' Secretary, &c. &c.

I have, &c., (Signed FRANCIS G. O'KEARNEY.

Table No. 1.—Showing the Proportion of Legitimate to Illegitimate Still-Births during 1865.

Antigua.	Leg	itimate.	Illeg	itimate.		Complexion		TOTAL
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Black.	White.	Coloured.	TOTAL
Parish of St. John -	16	9	29	20	51	4	19	74
" St. George	2	_	10	9	19	2		21
" St. Mary-	-	-	5	8	12		1	13
" St. Philip	1	-	11	1	11		2	-13
" St. Peter	3	2	7	14	22		4	26
" St. Paul -	-	1	5	11	12	_	5	17
TOTAL -	22	12	67	63	127	6	31	164

TABLE No. 2.—DURATION of LIFE of INFANTS One Year old and under during the Year 1865.

				2.	to 3.	to 4.	to 5.	to 6.	to 7.	to 8.	to 9.	to 10.	to 11	to 12		Con	mplexi	on.
Antigua.	24 hours.	1 week.	1 month.	1 month to	2 months t	3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months t	10 months	11 months	TOTAL.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
Parish of St. John -	14	23	28	6	10	7	10	5	7	7	6	7	2	3	135	87	11	37
" St. Mary	2	2	10	2	_		1	3	_	1	1	_	1	1	24	20	2	
" St. Paul -	4	2	9	4	3	3	2	1	2		1	1	_	7	39	33	5	
" St. Philip	2	6	5	4	-	_	3	1	3	1	1	-	_	2	28	25	. 1	5
" St. Peter	2	2	5	2	4	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	-/	11	41	31	3	,
" St. George	1	1	9	3	5	1	2	1	3	4	1	1	2	2	36	29	4	
TOTAL -	25	36	66	21	22	13	20	14	17	16	12	10	5	26	303	225	26	55

18090.

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ANTIGUA.

Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1865.

		Legiti	mate.	Illegit	imate.	Co	mplexi	on.		Adı	ılts.	Under over 1		One and u		Co	mplexio	on.
St. John - St. Mary -	No. of Births.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.	No. of Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
St. John -	177	45	28	54	50	117	13	47	270	72	87	22	23	39	27	139	40	91
	39	5	11	12	11	38	1	_	35	8	7	4	4	5	7	28	5	2
St. Paul -	38	4	8	10	16	34	1	3	33	6	12	3	1	4	7	25	5	:
St. Philip -	41	8	4	15	14	37	1	3	39	12	11	2	5	4	5	26	9	4
St. Peter -	37	4	6	11	16	27	4	6	40	5	13	6	7	6	3	22	11	1
St. George -	41	3	5	10	23	33	1	7	43	8	9	3	5	8	10	36	3	4
TOTALS	373	69	62	112	130	286	21	66	460	111	139	40	45	66	59	276	73	11

EDWIN D. BAYNES, Registrar General.

Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths.

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH FOR QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1866.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	No. of	A	dults.		er 14 and r 1 year.	1 Year	and under.		Complex	cion.
	Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured
I. Specified Causes:				1 -/						
A. General Diseases.				1 -6						
Zymotic (epidemic, endemic, or contagious) or eruptive fevers.	165	38	37	23	33	19	15	82	40	43
B. Sporadic Diseases.	FF P	12:41						7.0		
Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	14	6	8	-	-		_	12	1	1
Tubercular diseases	36	14	18	1	1	2	7	21	1	14
Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses.	43	11	11	5	3	6	7	27	11	5
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels -	9	2	7	-	-	-	_	8	-	1
Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration.	13	THE REAL PROPERTY.	4	-	3			9	1	3
Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion.	52	16	7	8	2	13	6	29	8	15
Diseases of the kidneys	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c	2	_	2	_	_	-	_	1	1	
Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c.	1		1	-	_	X	_		-	1
Diseases of the skin, cellular tissues, &c	16	5	9	-	1	1	-	13	-	3
Malformations	_	_	_	-	-	-	12	12	4	2
Premature birth and debility	18	-	-	-	1	6	12	2	4	2 9
Atrophy	5	-	1 31	2	1	1		23	5	3 9
Age	37	6	-					20		
Sudden	2 4	1	1	-1	1			4		
Violence, privation, poison, intemperance, &c. Still-born	37	_ 1	1			18	19	26	1	10
Sun-born	0,	137 13								
II. CAUSES NOT SPECIFIED	4	3	1	_	_	-	_	4	_	_
Totals	460	111	139	40	45	66	59	276	73	111

EDWIN D. BAYNES, Registrar General.

Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR EACH QUARTER OF THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1866.

	No. of	Legiti	mate.	Illegit	imate.	Co	mplexi	on.	No. of	Adı	ılts.	Under over 1	14 and year.	1 yea	r and der.	Co	mplexi	
QUARTERS.	Births.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.	Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
To 31 March To 30 June To 30 Sept. To 31 Dec.	419 334 291 373	89 78 69 69	82 71 60 62	123 85 81 112	125 100 81 130	314 244 209 286	24 31 19 21	81 59 63 66	450 291 353 460	127 81 75 111	132 79 114 139	41 15 12 40	39 15 22 45	56 47 63 66	55 54 67 59	347 233 267 276	41 13 27 73	62 45 59 111
Totals -	1,417	305	275	401	436	1,053	95	269	1,554	394	464	108	121	232	235	1,123	154	277

EDWIN D. BAYNES, Registrar General.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

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Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths.

ANTIGUA.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1866.

		No. of	Legit	imate.	Illegit	imate.	Co	mplexi	ion.	No. of	Adı	ults.	Under	14 and l year.		r and der.	Co	omplexi	on.
Parish.		Births.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.	Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
St. John	-	621	143	121	178	179	377	59	185	845	235	284	61	56	109	100	542	91	212
St. Mary	-	157	31	40	45	41	146	2	9	121	32	26	9	13	16	25	108	8	5
St. Paul	-	165	33	35	43	54	146	6	13	148	28	46	7	12	27	28	126	9	13
St. Philip	-	165	40	27	50	48	143	7	15	115	28	35	3	8	23	18	90	15	10
St. Peter	-	146	24	21	44	57	108	14	24	168	33	41	14	18	28	34	124	22	22
St. George	-	163	34	31	41	57	135	7	23	157	38	32	14	14	29	30	133	9	15
TOTALS	-	1,417	305	275	401	436	1,053	95	269	1,554	394	464	108	121	232	235	1,123	154	277

EDWIN D. BAYNES, Registrar General.

Office of Registrar General of Births and Deaths.

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1866.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	No. of Deaths.	Ac	lults.		er 14 and 1 year.	1 Year	and under.		Complex	ion.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
I. Specified Causes:										
A. General Diseases.		4 1 4				H.	-107		- ×	
Zymotic (epidemic, endemic, or contagious) or eruptive fevers.	360	76	80	50	60	51	43	226	66	68
B. Sporadic Diseases.	Jan 5	THE RES	N TENE			Tal A				* Series
Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	92	35	36	7	10	3	1	69	3	20
Tubercular diseases	190	75	103	4	3	4	1	136	9	45
Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses.	126	39	32	7	7	15	26	87	21	18
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels -	49	23	24	1	1	-		39	4	6
Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration.	41	17	13	_	7	-	4	30	3	8
Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion.	225	52	37	29	22	42	43	159	24	42
Diseases of the kidneys	4	4	_	_	_		_	2	-	2
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c	10	_	10	-	- 1	-	-	8	1	1
Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c.	4	1	3	-	-	-		2	-	2
Diseases of the skin, cellular tissues, &c	47	15	29	1	1	1	-10	40	1	6
Malformations	-	-		-	-			_	-	-
Premature birth and debility	52	-	2	-	-	19	31	38	6	8
Atrophy	24	4	6	5	4	3	2	18	1	5
Age	111	33	78	_	-	-	_	85	9	17
Sudden	5	3	1	-	-	1		5	-	-
Violence, privation, poison, intemperance, &c.	20	8	4	3	2	2	1	17	1	2
Still-born	164	_				86	78	134	4	26
II. CAUSES NOT SPECIFIED	30	9	6	1	4	5	5	28	1	1
TOTALS	1,554	394	464	108	121	232	235	1,123	154	277

EDWIN D. BAYNES, Registrar General.

MONT-SERRAT. No. 13.

vernor Pine, No. 26.

Aug. 10, 1866.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 13.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 73.)

My LORD, Mr. Saunders to Lieut .- Go-

Leeward Islands, Antigua, 20th August 1866. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Despatch from the Administrator of the Government of Montserrat, forwarding the Blue Book for 1865.

> I have, &c. BENJ. C. C. PINE. (Signed)

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c.

(No. 26.)

SIR,

Government House, 10th August 1866.

I have the honour to forward herewith to your Excellency, for transmission to the Secretary of State, the Montserrat Blue Book for 1865.

2. The expenditure of 1865, it will be seen by the Returns, exceeded the revenue

by 539l. 3s. 5d.; the Colony, consequently, was left in debt at the end of the year.

During the present year the Legislature have passed a measure imposing rates for the maintenance of the poor, by which the General Revenue of the Colony has been relieved of the annual charge of 650l.; and had it not been for an increase in the Miscellaneous Expenditure, caused chiefly by the Quarantine Establishment, and a large outlay by the Board of Health for cholera medicines, blankets, &c. &c., the public liabilities would have been discharged and there would now have been a large surplus liabilities would have been discharged, and there would now have been a large surplus in the Colonial chest.

3. No public work was undertaken during the past year. The wharf, for which provision was made in 1864, was in progress, and I am happy to be able to report that

it will be completed during the present month.

4. It affords me much pleasure to report, that the Legislature have at last established a Police Force, the want of which has long been felt, and has repeatedly been urged by several Administrators of the Government. The urgent necessity of providing for a protective force for the preservation of internal order was reported to Governor Hill by President Robinson, in his Despatch of the 30th December 1863, and I beg to inform your Excellency that I concur with Mr. Robinson in his views on the subject, as expressed in that Despatch.

5. The agricultural condition of the Colony has improved, the sugar crop for the year having largely exceeded those of many years past; at the same time the cultivation

of cotton has also improved.

6. The sanitary condition of the Island has been good, and its general quietude has

7. One measure of vast public utility is still required, and that a total abrogation of the elective element in the Legislature. I regret that I am compelled to report the total unfitness of the persons chosen to serve in the Assembly, the greater number of whom, to use the words of the late Captain Booth, can barely read and write.

> I have, &c. ROBERT SAUNDERS. (Signed)

His Excellency Sir B. C. C. Pine, &c. &c.

ST. KITTS.

ST. KITTS.
No. 14.

No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 167.)

My LORD,

Leeward Islands Government, Government House, St. Kitts,

5th November 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of St. Kitts for 1865, together with an able and interesting Report thereon from Mr. Holligan, the Administrator of the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

BENJ. C. C. PINE, Administrator of the Leeward

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

Islands Government.

(No. 68.)

Sir, Government House, St. Christopher, 22d September 1866.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Island

for 1865, with a Report thereon.

With regard to the first half of the year, I can speak from personal knowledge and observation, but as to the latter I have been entirely dependent for information on the usual official, but not always reliable, sources.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

The principal taxes levied here are Customs Duties on Imports and Exports.

Of Export Duties on produce there are four classes, three forming parts of the General Revenue, of which two are levied on the planter and one on the shipping; the fourth is paid by the planter exclusively for immigration purposes.

The tonnage duty is one shilling and sixpence per ton measurement, with the option, in case of vessels not wholly laden, or not intending wholly to discharge, of paying a

package duty instead.

The only other tax of any importance is on licences, which are charged as follows:-

To sell rum in less quantity than 50 gallons (including beer, wine, and other spirituous liquors)—

In Basseterre - - - - 60
In other towns - - - 45
In any other place - - - - 35

To sell wine, beer, and all spirituous liquors except rum, in less quantity than 30 gallons—

The Import Act of 1857, being about to expire, was, with some amendments, continued for seven years. The Tariff established by it is substantially the same as the former. Some few agricultural implements, as chaff-cutters, hoes, cane bills, ploughs, and harrows, and the packages in which coal is imported, have been omitted from the table of exemptions, but other articles used in the manufacture of sugar, as clarifiers and steam-pans, have been introduced; so that the balance of taxation, as between the landed interest and the people at large, remains pretty much the same.

Of the taxes raised in 1865, amounting in the whole to 25,076l., 5,803l. only fell directly on the land; and of this, 1,866l. was in the course of the year repaid to the owners of those larger estates which are compelled to furnish troopers for service in the cavalry. The remainder (3,937l.) is levied under the Act of the 20th August 1850, passed to abolish parochial vestries, to consolidate benefices, and to provide for the

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payment of the stipends of the clergy by a tax upon exports. On this fund the clergy have the first lien, but after payment of their stipends the residue, if any, is applicable to the general purposes of the Public Treasury.

From the passing of the above-mentioned Act to the end of 1865, 35,774l. has been collected, while during the same period 51,986l. has been expended for church and

parochial purposes. This latter sum is made up of,-

Stipends of clergy, rent and repair of p	arsonage hou	ses, build	ling	£
churches	_		-	47,898
Parochial expenses, including rents of p	ounds -	-		1,120
Public cemetery	-			2,968
				51,986
Deducting, therefore, the cost of two church	hes built		-	13,000
				£38,986

the amount raised under the Act has been, within 2001. a year, sufficient to meet the charge of which the land was relieved in 1850, and the Ecclesiastical Establishment can

no longer be said to be unduly onerous to the country.

Since the completion of St. George's Church, the chief ornament of the Island, the Executive Council have recorded their opinion that it is not the duty of the Government to build churches, or provide for any extension of church accommodation that may be required, particularly as the special impost for the church and clergy is not more than sufficient to defray the expenses of the Establishment, and that if any such extension be necessary it must be met by local taxation.

By an Act of the 30th March 1865 three fourths of the export tax for immigration purposes, which does not appear in the General Account of Revenue and Expenditure,

was remitted for another year.

On the whole, however, when it is remembered that there is no local taxation, and that the expenditure which the General Revenue is raised to meet includes not only the stipends of the clergy and the repair of churches, but the entire cost of keeping the roads in order, and of providing medical and other relief for the poor, and substantially the maintenance of the corporate establishment of Basseterre, the taxation of the Island, as compared with that of many of its neighbours, will be found to be very moderate, amounting, on an average of several years, to barely fifteen shillings a head.

Fees.

No alteration was made during the past year in the fees receivable by public officers to their own use; but those in Chancery, which are at present so high as to have almost

closed the approach to that Court, are now under revision.

The Act No. 221, "To improve the Administration of Justice in Magistrates' Courts," establishes a Schedule of Fees for the Court of Appeal from the decision of Magistrates, which, as well as those received in the Magistrates' Courts, are paid into the Treasury. The fees to be taken in the new Court are moderate, and by no means calculated to check appeals.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows in round numbers the Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

	Years.		RE	VENUE.		Th
		Imports.	Exports.	Other sources.	Total.	Expenditure
	1760	£	£	£	£	£
THE ST	1861	12,080	2,330	5,873	20,283	21,433
	1862	12,783	2,585	6,924	22,292	21,371
DOM:	1863	10,701	2,529	8,742	21,972	22,154
	1864	11,221	1,467	6,757	19,445	21,257
	1865	12,127	3,191	9,758	25,076	22,259
	Total -	58,912	12,102	38,054	109,068	108,474

The balance in the Treasury on the 31st of December 1860 was 10,352l., of which 5,870l. was available for the service of 1861, and at the end of 1865, notwithstanding a considerable increase of cost in the maintenance of the Cunningham Hospital, and of the medical establishment for the relief of the poor, as well as in the expenditure on roads and other public works, the balance in the Treasury was 10,946l., of which 5,436l. was available for the service of the current year.

During this period, too, a portion of the General Revenue, arising from spirit licences in Basseterre, and amounting to upwards of 1,000l. a year, was given up to the corporation. And in 1863–1864, twelve and a half per cent. of the tax on imports, and of that in lieu of parochial rates, was remitted for 12 months, as well as the same proportion of the cavalry tax, making together a still further reduction in the receipts for those

years of 2,010l.

For the management of the finances during the interval, all credit is due to the Administrative Committee.

Comparative yearly Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Between the Revenue of 1864 and that of 1865 there is a difference of nearly thirty per cent. in favour of the latter year. In 1864, which was a year of unprecedented drought, the gross receipts fell short of the estimates by 605*l*., while in 1865, the crop of which was probably the largest ever made, and which naturally resulted in an immediate increase both of export and import duties, the receipts were 1,576*l*. in excess.

The Expenditure of 1865 exceeded that of the previous year by 1,002l. 2s. 6d.

Under the head of increase are included an additional clerk in the Treasury Department, one quarter's allowance for cavalry service in 1864, not paid until 1865, an unusually large outlay on the hospital, the equipment of the fire company, an extraordinary expenditure for cholera medicines, and a vote of 1,000 dollars in aid of the sufferers by the hurricane at Guadeloupe, for which most liberal grant the Legislature has received the special thanks of the Imperial Government of France.

Local Revenues.

Since the abolition of vestries in 1850, with the exception of a small sum collected by the corporation of Basseterre on boatmen and porters' licences, there have been no local revenues raised in this Island.

Public Debt.

For many years past it has been the policy of this Colony, notwithstanding the example set by some of her neighbours, to decline pecuniary aid from any quarter, to resist every temptation to incur debt even for remunerative works, and to meet extraordinary demands by increased taxation. There is, therefore, no return to make under this head.

Military Expenditure.

Of the military posts and works enumerated in the Blue Book, none are under the control of the Ordnance Department. By an Act of the Colonial Legislature, dated the 1st of October 1855, all the Ordnance lands and buildings in St. Christopher and Anguilla were, with Her Majesty's assent, vested in the Colonial authorities for such purposes for the public service of these Islands as the Legislature should from time to time direct, but subject of course to Her Majesty's right to occupy them at any time for the purpose of military defence. Under the sanction of this Act, Brimstone Hill was at once dismantled, and all the building material worth removing either used for public purposes or sold to private parties. The substantial bomb-proof, known as Fort George, and several other buildings capable together of holding some hundreds of men, and all the large water-tanks from which the garrison was supplied, are still, however, in excellent condition. Of the five forts on the coast, two have been entirely abandoned, and are in ruins; the other three, intended for the protection of the town, are kept in repair and armed, but only with clumsily mounted 24-pounders.

The Militia is liable to be called out for drill at the discretion of the Governor, who is ex officio colonel. While, however, recognizing the necessity of maintaining a force of a military character, the Government of the Colony have felt that it is their duty so to regulate the necessary measures with regard to drill as to cause as little interruption as possible to private business. During the crop season, therefore, the cavalry drill is almost entirely suspended, and the force was not this year called out even for the usual review on the Queen's birthday. On the 14th of this month, however, they were inspected by Major-General Ainslie, commanding the troops in the Windward and Leeward Islands, who, I am happy to say, expressed his satisfaction on finding them in

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so creditable a condition, and on learning that the local regulations have so good an effect in securing a proper attendance at the periodical drills. Of the two branches of the service, the Major-General says, "the cavalry is upon the whole serviceably "mounted, and the horses sufficiently trained. They are well commanded, and appear to have been instructed with much attention, so as to move steadily and with correct-mess." "With regard to the artillery, it was composed so entirely of recruits just entering on their period of service, that little could be expected of them, but I have no doubt that they will in due time arrive at a satisfactory state of efficiency."

The present condition of the artillery is the unavoidable result of a provision of the law under which the corps is enrolled, by which the period of service is limited to three years. The majority of the young men of whom it is composed, however, appear by no means averse to the service, and I have very little doubt that a few months of weekly drill will soon bring them up to the old standard. The Major-General in his report makes some suggestions as to drill and other matters, which, so far as practicable, will be

carried out with as little delay as possible.

The actual amount of the expense incurred for the support of the force, for the purchase of arms, equipments, clothing, ammunition, pay, drill instruction, maintenance of forts, and allowance to estates for men and horses furnished for cavalry service, was 2,255l. 9s. The estimate for 1866 is 2,360l.

The Acts in force for regulating the Militia are No. 187, of the 15th August 1862, "To consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Militia and other protective Forces," Nos. 204, of the 13th August 1863, and 213, of the 20th February 1865, to

amend No. 187.

Public Works.

The whole of the outlay under this head in 1865, amounting to 2,726l. 13s. 1d., was for repairs of roads, bridges, and public buildings, with the exception of 100l. for the construction of a new reservoir for supplying water to the town of Sandy Point.

Legislation.

In the course of the year 1865 there were 18 Acts of the Legislature passed, which are here classified according to their subject-matter, under the following heads:—

Administration of Justice.

" To amend the Law relative to Juries."

Before the passing of this Act it appears that there was no provision for the formation of jury lists, for properly testing the qualification of jurors, nor for the impartial selection of juries, the marshal being at liberty to summon any person he pleased who was supposed to be qualified. Neither was there any other way of forming a special jury than by selection by the parties of the required number from the persons qualified as common jurymen. In this measure there are several provisions of a character novel to the legislation of these Islands. It disqualifies for service as a juryman every man who cannot read and write, or who has been convicted of any infamous crime. Special juries are to consist of nine persons and no more. The verdict of a petty jury is to be unanimous, if delivered within two hours after the conclusion of the judge's charge; and if delivered more than two and not more than six hours after such charge, the verdict of eleven is to be taken; if more than six, the verdict of nine is to be considered as the verdict of the whole. The verdict of a special jury is to be unanimous if delivered within two hours after the conclusion of the judge's charge; if two hours or more after such charge, the verdict of seven is to be considered as that of the whole. If no verdict be delivered by a special jury within two hours, or by a petty jury within twelve after the judge's charge, and the Court shall be satisfied that there is no prospect of the jury agreeing, the Court may discharge such jury, and cause a new jury to be empannelled, sworn, and charged with the case as if the first jury had not been empannelled. In criminal cases, prosecutor or prisoner may challenge five jurors and no more without assigning cause. Coroners' juries are to consist of nine and no more, and the verdict of seven to be taken as the verdict of the whole.

" To improve the Administration of Justice in Magistrates' Courts."

Of the various functions of the Government of a West India Colony at the present day, there is none more important than a constant and watchful supervision of the administration of summary justice. Formerly, all petty sessions were held by two unpaid justices of the peace; but in 1863 an Act was passed to appoint a police magistrate for the rural districts, and to enable him to sit in sessions with an unpaid justice.

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For the town of Basseterre and its neighbourhood, containing one third of the population, the sessions were still held before two unpaid justices. In the rural districts, too, the change was found not to have done all the good expected of it; and the administration of summary justice throughout the Island was still virtually in the hands of the unpaid justices. And although it is but fair to those gentlemen whose gratuitous services were so long given to the public to admit that there does not appear to have been any ground for imputing to them any wilful abuse of the powers confided to them, it must be borne in mind that there was scarcely one of them who was not actively engaged in business, and unable to give to the performance of those duties the time and attention which are absolutely necessary to the prompt and regular administration of instice. It must also be admitted, that however pure and impartial their conduct may have been, it was impossible that tribunals constituted entirely of persons who, being themselves employers of labour, were often indirectly if not directly interested in the cases brought before them for adjudication, should command the entire confidence of the labouring classes. From the decisions of the justices in petty sessions the only appeal was to the Court of Queen's Bench, and then only on questions of law, there being no mode of getting the merits before the Court save by writ of certiorari.

This Act constitutes the Attorney General ex officio police magistrate for the town and its neighbourhood, and invests him, as well as the police magistrate for the rural districts, with all the powers of two justices of the peace in sessions. It also provides a cheap and

simple appeal from the magistrate's decisions.

"To simplify and expedite the Administration of Justice in the Island of Anguilla."

The improvements in the administration of justice in Anguilla made by this Act are the abolition of the Small Debt Court as a distinct tribunal, and the establishment of a single Court combining the jurisdiction of that Court with those of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity. Of this Court the local magistrate is constituted Deputy Judge, with power, in the absence of the Chief Justice, to decide cases, with certain exceptions, in which the amount in dispute does not exceed 25l. A simple method is provided of appealing from the decisions of the local tribunal to the Chief Justice, and also of obtaining his opinion upon any question which may arise in the course of any proceeding. With consent of parties, the Deputy Judge may try with a jury any case beyond his ordinary jurisdiction, and, with the like consent, he may hear any such case without a jury, and transmit the evidence to the Chief Justice for his decision in writing. And, subject to its own special provisions, this Act incorporates the St. Christopher Code of Procedure.

Educational.

"To render permanent the Act to establish a Grammar School, and to encourage "Education amongst the Industrial Classes."

Executive.

"To authorize Public Servants to give the Security of a Guarantee Society for the "Discharge of their Duties."

Financial.

"To continue for another Year the Remission of Three Fourths of the Export Tax levied for Immigration Purposes."

" To impose Duties on Imports, and provide for their Collection."

The tariff established by this Act is, as I have already observed, substantially the same as the former. The exemption from port charges in favour of the Royal Mail steamers is extended to all steam vessels carrying mails.

" The usual Appropriation Act."

Masters and Servants.

"To extend to Anguilla the St. Kitts Act for regulating the relative Rights and "Duties of Masters and Servants."

Military.

Mr. Cardwell having called attention to a statement in the correspondence respecting the St. Vincent riots in 1863, to the effect that a certain provision in the St. Vincent Militia Act, to which exception had been taken by the Duke of Newcastle, was similar to one in the Militia Act of this Island, and recommended that the clause containing it should be repealed, the Act of 20th February 1865 (No. 213.) was passed to give effect to the Secretary of State's suggestion. The clause objected to was the 44th of the Militia Act of 1862, which authorized the Governor, in case of actual disturbance 18090.

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or other urgent necessity, to proclaim martial law in force, during the continuance of which it went on to enact that all persons should be subject thereto. This clause was considered objectionable, first, because it was impossible to say what was really the power which it conferred upon the Governor, and what the obligations or liabilities which it imposed on the inhabitants; and next, because it was calculated to produce the impression that under its authority the Governor might by proclamation relieve himself and others from the consequences of violating the known rules of law. It has therefore been repealed, and there is no longer any local law authorizing the Governor to proclaim martial law; but in its place has been substituted a provision making it lawful for the Governor, during the continuance of any proclamation of alarm arising from internal commotion, to authorize by writing under his hand the imprisonment and detainer of all persons charged before him with the commission of offences against the public peace.

Municipal.

Two Acts were passed within the year for the purpose of amending the constitution of the Corporation of Basseterre, originally established by Act No. 175, of the 6th May 1861; the first on the 31st January, the object of which is stated in the preamble to be to extend the powers of the mayor and town council, and more particularly to define the duties of certain of the corporation officers. This Act repeals No. 175. Notwithstanding, however, the amendments made by it, it was found not to have done the good it was designed to accomplish, and the Act of the 8th December was passed for the purpose of altering the constitution. It suspends for three years the election of councillors by the burgesses, and vests the appointment of the mayor and town council during that period in the Governor, putting them, with regard to removal from office for just cause, on the same footing as other officers of the Government. The town clerk is also appointed by the Governor, and to be deemed an officer of the Government, and hold office during pleasure, and may be dismissed without any investigation before the town council. It also effects another important innovation, taken from the French law relating to municipalities, by separating the executive from the legislative authority. The mayor and council, constituting the town council, are to make the byelaws, and vote the annual budget; but the mayor, assisted by the town clerk, is charged with the duty of executing these laws, and of disbursing the funds. It, however, still leaves untouched the radical defect pointed out by your Excellency in your Blue Book Report for 1864, of not leaving the Corporation to raise the necessary funds for its working entirely by local rates; for the proceeds of the town spirit and other licences payable to the Colonial Treasurer, and collected by him, being still paid over to the Corporation, the citizens are no more under the necessity of taxing themselves than heretofore. Out of the revenue placed at their disposal they light the town and repair its streets; but for the police, and the supply of water brought from the mountains down to their doors, the inhabitants of Basseterre It must, however, be admitted that there contribute no more than any other taxpayers. It must, however, be admitted that there is a manifest improvement in the general condition of the town and the state of the roads since the establishment of the new system, and the appointment of a young and energetic mayor and an active town clerk.

Postal.

The principal object in legislating on this subject was the establishment of the money-order system; but, in accordance with the suggestion of the late Duke of Newcastle, the former Acts were repealed, and the amended law embodied in one statute. The only departures from the old law were, the extension of the office hours, the limitation of the time allowed for posting letters after the time fixed for closing the mail, on payment of extra postage, and the establishment of the money-order system.

Sanitary.

An Act was also passed for the better management of the Cunningham Hospital, on the nature and results of which I shall have occasion to touch in another part of this

Report.

On the outbreak of cholera in Guadeloupe it was thought necessary to put the quarantine laws of the Island in force, and they having on revision been considered wanting in stringency, an Act was introduced for the purpose of increasing their efficiency, which, among other things, directs that during the existence of cholera or any other contagious or infectious disease in any of the neighbouring Islands, of which the Governor's proclamation to that effect shall at all times be sufficient evidence, no person shall land from any vessel arriving at this Island until such vessel shall have been boarded by the Visiting Officer, and permission given so to do. And the Governor is authorized

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to use "all necessary means" to prevent such persons from landing without permission during the existence of cholera or any other contagious disease in any of the neighbouring Islands. This provision was no doubt intended to be applicable to any country in which any infectious or contagious disease may exist, but is so worded as to limit the operation of the extraordinary power it was intended to confer to the existence of cholera "in one of the neighbouring Islands," and to leave it unavailable as against every other part of the world. The necessary steps, however, will be taken for amending it.

Trade.

At the suggestion of the Home Government, an Act was passed to establish a Court of Inquiry into the causes of wrecks occurring on the coasts of this Island and of Anguilla, and another to assimilate the law of the Colony to that of England with regard to the fraudulent use of trade marks.

An Act to regulate the trade of the Island was also passed, the provisions of which are taken almost entirely from the Imperial Customs Consolidation Act.

Political Franchise.

In the Political Franchise there has been no change.

Council and Assembly.

In the course of the year 1865 the Executive Council was reduced from eleven to nine by the death of Mr. Tudor, and the absence without leave for more than three years of Mr. Roger. From the same causes, and also from the continued non-attendance of Mr. Burton Robinson, three vacancies occurred in the Legislative Council, of which two have since been filled up by the appointment to seats at the Board of Mr. Turner, the late Speaker of the House of Assembly, and Dr. Boon, a member of the Executive

Council, and for many years also of the Assembly.

In the House of Assembly Mr. Cannonier, one of the members for St. John,

Capisterre, having died, was replaced by Mr. Benjamin Davis.

Civil Establishment.

Of the public officers whose names appeared in the Blue Book for 1864, the Colony lost by death in the course of last year Mr. Tudor, the Surveyor of Roads, and Dr. Scudamore, the Medical Officer of No. 4 District. Mr. Tudor was replaced by the appointment of Mr. Dickinson, and Dr. Scudamore by the transfer of Dr. Dinzey from the Cayon District to No. 4.

Dr. Beard having obtained six months' leave of absence for the benefit of his health, Dr. Longheed, a gentleman who had been for some years in practice in St. Vincent, was appointed to act for him, and eventually, on Dr. Beard's return, and Dr. Branch's appointment to the office of Resident Superintendent of the Cunningham Hospital, was permanently appointed to No. 7 District. The vacancy in No. 3. caused by Dr. Dinzey's removal has not yet been filled.

Pensions payable out of the Revenues of the Colony.

The only pensions at present charged on the Colonial Revenues are for services in the police force, which in 1864 amounted to 105l. per annum, but were reduced by death in the course of 1865 to 67l. 10s.

Foreign Consuls.

No change. Mr. Delisle is, however, Consul for the United States, as well as for France, Sweden, and Norway.

Population.

The population, which in the early part of 1854 was upwards of 25,000 souls, was suddenly reduced by the destruction in the course of that year of some 4,000 lives by cholera, the census taken on the 1st January 1855 giving a total of only 20,741. By the census of the 6th April 1861 the total number was 24,440, showing an increase in the intervening six years and a quarter of nearly 600 a year,—a result not entirely borne out by the registration returns, but probably not far from the mark. Assuming, however, the correctness of the census of 1861, and taking, as I think may safely be done, the natural increase in the four years and three quarters immediately following at 300 a year, and the permanent addition during the same period by immigration at 1,000, the population of the Island at the close of 1865 would have been in round numbers 27,000.

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I am happy to be able to say, that although the rate of mortality among children of one year and under is still very high, it is lower in 1865 than it was in 1864. On this subject the Registrar General in his annual report observes,—" A reference to the tables " of births shows how large a proportion of infants continue to be the offspring of parents " unmarried, and such children, having for the most part but one acknowledged parent " to provide for them in the tenderness of their infancy, and that the one least able, fall " a sacrifice to want, and greatly augment the registrars' returns. We pay dearly, " therefore, for the social blot the birth returns exhibit."

That this view of the case is to a great extent correct, and that a general disregard of the marriage tie is the principal cause of the great mortality among children, I have little doubt; but it is not the sole cause. There is neglect of offspring on the part of the married as well as of those who live in concubinage; and the following figures will show, that while in the last three years the mortality among children has decreased, illegitimacy has increased:—

Years.	Births, Legitimate.	Births, Illegitimate.	Deaths, 1 year and under.
1863	623	588	416
1864	546	599	401
1865	608	638	370

Subjoined is an abstract of births and deaths during 1864 and 1865, and a table showing the causes of death from the 1st January to the 31st December 1865:—

		Legiti	mate.	Illegit	imate.	Co	mplexi	ion.	NT 6	Adı	ults.	Under over 1		1 yea und	r and er.	Co	mplex	ion.
Year.	No. of Births.	М.	F.	М.	F.	White.	Coloured.	Black.	No. of Deaths.	м.	F.	M.	F.	м.	F.	White.	Coloured.	Black.
1864	1,145	275	271	312	287	106	199	840	881	172	181	61	66	211	190	75	144	662
1865	1,246	318	290	329	309	129	225	892	786	145	161	54	56	204	166	94	119	573

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1865.

		Ad	ults.		14 and year.		r and ler.	Co	mplexi	on.
CAUSES OF DEATH.	No. of Deaths.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	White.	Coloured.	Black.
I. Specified Causes:										
A. General Diseases. Zymotic (epidemic, endemic, or contagious) -	75	4	7	9	9	21	25	11	10	54
B. Sporadic Diseases. Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	24	10	7	4	1	2	_	2	6	16
Tubercular diseases Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses.	68 62	25 18	33 15	4 3	4	1 16	1 9	9 3	11 9	48 50
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels - Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration	4 11	1 2	2 3		1 3	1	_	2 2	2	9
Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion. Diseases of the kidneys	209	33	19	20	23	65	49	28 1	34	147
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c Diseases of the skin, cellular tissue, &c	6 1 17	=	6 1 6	=		=	=	1 - 3	- 1 2	$\frac{5}{12}$
Malformations, &c Premature birth and debility	2 132	=		Ξ	=	$\begin{array}{c}2\\73\end{array}$	59	10	18	2 104
Atrophy	5 69 25	25 10	44 4		2 - 4	-3 1		4 8 3	- 8 2	1 53 20
II. Causes not specified	712 74	136	147	44	50	187	148	87	103	522 51
Totals	786	145	161	54	56	204	166	94	119	573

Savings Banks, Friendly Societies, Immigrants and Emigrants.

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There is a savings bank in the town of Basseterre, established under the guarantee of the public credit, of which the Treasurer of the Colony is ex officio treasurer, and on deposits in which, interest at the rate of a little over three per cent. per annum is allowed; but for many years it has been very little used by the native labourer, who, when he saves at all, prefers to invest in live stock. The principal depositors during the last few years have been Coolie immigrants, who from time to time during their five years' service have lodged 532l. 11s. $9\frac{3}{4}d$. in the bank.

The friendly societies have decreased in number, owing principally to internal

Since 1861 forty freeholders have been added to the list.

The population of the Island has from time to time been augmented by the following importations of immigrants:-

Whence en	Whence emigrating.						1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	Total
Great Britain -	.00			- _		1	124							,
Madeira -		-		- 106	157	253	103	77	43	50	219			1,008
Sierra Leone -	-			- 95					_	_	223			318
St. Helena -		-		- 137	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	137
East Indies -	-	-			_	_		200	337	-	_			337
British West Indies		-		- 5	_			_						5

These figures are taken from a return to an address of the House of Commons, dated the 15th February 1865, and verified as far as possible by the Island records; but there was also an importation of some 200 English and Welsh immigrants in 1844-45, of the

precise number of which I can find no trace among the public papers.

On the 9th of March last year, when I reported having visited all the estates in the Island on which indentured labourers were located, there were still under contract 235 Coolie, 233 Portuguese, and 215 African labourers, making a total of 683, exclusive of Coolie and Portuguese children under six years of age. Of those immigrants whose contracts had previously expired it was estimated that 700, principally Portuguese, had made their homes here; and to these may now, I imagine, be added the greater part of those immigrants of all classes whose time has since expired, making in all, in round numbers, probably 1,000 persons.

It appears from the report of the Superintendent of Immigrants, hereto annexed, that of the 337 Coolies imported in June 1861 the number of deaths has been as follows:--

Landed in	a dying	state, a	and never	allot	ted -	-	6
After allot	ment, b	ut most	of them	ill on	arrival		10
Murdered						-	1
Executed			-	-			1
Infants	-				-	-	4
		Г	otal				22

Of the 331 allotted, 312 only were of an age to enter into contracts, the remainder being

children under six years of age.

At the termination of the third and fourth years of their engagement, 63 of them paid the prescribed amount in commutation of further service, and left for Demerara and

Trinidad. On the 3d of June last the indentures of the rest expired.

With a view to retaining their services in the Colony, the Government offered a bounty of 10l. and a free back passage for their re-indenture for another period of three years, half the bounty to be paid by the planter and half out of the Immigration Fund. On the part of the labourers there was very little inclination to enter into fresh contracts on any terms, some declaring their intention of going to Demerara, and others, although not intending to leave the Island, preferring to remain free to work where they pleased to re-indenturing, notwithstanding that they were fully aware that by their refusal they would forfeit their right to a free back passage. Those few who seemed at first disposed to accept the bounty very soon apparently changed their minds, and the Superintendent reports that he found it is a state of the tendent reports that he found it impossible to ascertain from any of them what their real intentions were. The planters too, who were eager enough at first to re-indenture, have, on further consideration, declined to enter into fresh contracts.

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Eighty-four Coolies have since left for Demerara, and of the 312, therefore, originally

indentured, there would remain 143.

Of the 46 Portuguese under indenture on the 30th June, 19 completed their contracts on the 13th, and 15 on the 21st of last month, and the other 12 will be free on the 9th of October next.

All the adult liberated Africans became free on the 27th of August. There are still, however, 30 males and 36 females of the second class whose indentures will not expire

until they shall have attained 18 years of age.

Besides these there are 11 Portuguese who arrived and entered into contracts here

on the 22d August for three years.

I have recently invited applications for a further supply of Coolies, but comparatively few have been received. Occasional complaints are heard of a scarcity of labour, and of the unreliable character of the native labourer, but the importation of foreign labour

is evidently no longer considered of vital importance.

Although I have never had any opportunity of observing the treatment of immigrants in any other Colony, I can of my own knowledge vouch for their having been well looked after and liberally and kindly dealt by here. The provisions of the law have as a rule been faithfully carried out, and many indulgences voluntarily accorded to which the law gave them no title.

As to the amount of emigration in 1865 I can get no information whatever.

The number of persons living in villages is returned as being 1,537, the same as in the previous year, but, so far as I am aware, no means have been adopted since 1861 of ascertaining the correctness of these figures, and but little reliance is to be placed on

The same may be said with regard to the children employed in agriculture, returned as much the same proportion as in England; whereas, although it is impossible to arrive at anything like certainty, there is little doubt, I apprehend, that it is infinitely greater

In the Blue Book there are said to be 36 paupers, but the average number of the inmates of the Cunningham Hospital during the latter part of 1865 was 91.

Ecclesiastical Return.

The following table shows the number of churches or chapels and clergy belonging to each church, together with the average number of attendants :-

Church.	No. of Churches or Chapels.	No. of Clergymen.	No. of Attendants.	
Churc's of England - Moravian Wesleyan Roman Catholic	11* 4 9 1	7 5 4 1	2,010 2,250 3,900 250	* Of these, one, a chapel of ease in Basse terre, is entirely closed, the rector declaring himself incapable of continuing his ministrations in it without the assistance of a curate.

The Act No. 95, of the 20th August 1850, subject to vested interests, consolidated into three six of the nine parishes into which the Island is divided, giving one officiating minister to two of them. Up to the present time this measure has only taken effect as to four of the parishes, and there are, therefore, still seven clergymen of the Established Church in the Island. On the death, however, of the Rector of Trinity, the two

remaining parishes will be united, and the number of clergy will be reduced to six.

The Act for the abolition of vestries makes no provision for building churches or parsonage houses near the centres of the united parishes, one consequence of which, as pointed out by your Excellency in your Blue Book Report for 1860, is that each parish is deprived of one service on Sunday, and another that the minister cannot properly perform his parochial duties without an amount of fatigue to which few men in this climate are equal.

The united salaries of the clergy of the Church of England amount to 1,796l. 10s.

per annum. The total value of such glebes as there are is returned at 75l. per annum.

The churches and chapels belonging to the Church of England are capable of containing 3,720 persons, the Wesleyan 6,000, the Moravians 3,575, and the Roman Catholics 400. Divine service according to the rites of the Church of Rome is also performed twice a month at the house of a Catholic gentleman resident in the northwest quarter of the Island, which is attended by an average congregation of about 100, principally Portuguese immigrants.

Education.

St. Kitts.

The grants for educational purposes in 1865 amounted to 1,053l. 6s. 3d., of which 500l. was in aid of schools for the industrial classes, and 553l. 6s. 3d. for the payment of masters for the Grammar School, including the inspection of the industrial schools.

The following are returns of the schools receiving Government aid, with the average attendance during 1864 and 1865:—

1864.

In connexion with		No. of Schools receiving Government Aid.	Average Daily Attendance.	School 1	Fees.
				8	c.
Established Church	-	9 7	379	351	43
Moravians -	-	7	407	362	88
Wesleyans -	-	8	456	434	68
Total -	-	24	1,242	1,148	99
		1865.			
Established Church		11	475	438	21
Moravians -	-	8	398	414	100000
Wesleyans	-	8	494	456	2000
Total -	-	27	1,367	1,309	59

These returns show an increase in 1865 of three in the number of schools as compared with 1864, 125 in the attendance, and 160 dollars 60 cents in school fees.

Having recently visited the schools receiving Government aid, I have come to the conclusion that, although there has no doubt been considerable improvement in the education given in them within the last four or five years, there is room for very much more, and that the inspection by the Principal of the Grammar School, from which so much was hoped, has not as yet been productive of the good results anticipated from it. But the chief obstacles to advancement are created by the parents, and loud complaints are made by ministers and teachers of the frequent interruption of their pupils' progress by their being kept back to work in the (fourpenny) gang which is employed on almost every estate.

Imports and Exports.

The following tables show the value of the Imports and Exports for the last five years:—

IMPORTS.

Years	Goods liable to specific Duties.	Goods liable to ad valorem Duties.	Goods admitted free of Duty.	Total Value of Imports.
	£	£	£	£
1861	68,181	55,382	13,375	136,938
1862		56,522	14,573	166,872
1863	,	51,882	10,560	151,885
1864	7	46,617	12,915	188,669
1865	76,977	60,729	13,688	151,394

EXPORTS.

Years.		Sugar.		Ru	Rum.		Molasses.		Tous les mois and Arrow- root.	Salt.	Po- tatoes.	produce, value	of Ex- ports the	Total Value of Exports not the	Total Value of all Exports,
	Hhds.	Trs.	Brls.	Puns.	Hhds.	Puns.	Hhds.	Brls	Lbs.	Brls.	Brls.	Sterling.	produce of the Island.	produce of the Island.	Sterling.
		1					***			10.00		£	£	£	£
1861	8,651	225	5,478	1,240	18	3,127	8	183	25,540	8,752	233	167	145,933	12,291	158,224
1862	9,765	14	6,444	1,404	20	3,127	-	273	15,168	6,616	275	173	159,836	16,121	175,958
1863	10,508	175	7,359	1,045	16	3,032	2	148	69,848		441	743	159,152	16,533	175,686
1864	5,188	220	4,776	321	15	1,850	-	12	118,420		1,458	1,523	110,953	14,455	125,408
1865	11,116	250	9,688	1,147	25	4,626	1		169,299		1,862	1,47	182,689	13,486	196,175

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With the exception of 1864, during which great drought prevailed, there has been a steady increase in sugar, while the export of tous les mois and arrowroot has also risen in the last five years from 25,540 to 169,299 lbs., and the salt ponds, which in 1861 yielded 8,752 barrels, gave under improved management 33,308 barrels in 1865, and will no doubt be made more productive still.

Shipping.

The following are returns of Shipping entered inwards and cleared outwards during the last five years:—

INWARDS.

Nationality of Vessels.	1	861.	1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.	
Transfer of Cosess	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Great Britain British Colonial United States Denmark France Holland Portugal Hanover Sweden Spain Mecklenburg	27 357 40 1 32 123 1 1 53 —	7,579 10,780 5,448 268 294 754 131 174 310	35 390 29 2 19 116 — 70 1	9,608 12,737 4,585 536 142 553 — 1,627 80	32 393 10 4 30 103 5 1 55 —	9,559 13,966 1,795 449 261 753 528 171 2,031 — 332 148	16 419 10 13 21 87 2 1 51 —	4,752 14,781 1,439 126 190 682 239 322 2,027 — 233	40 328 12 14 50 138 4 	11,231 12,846 1,782 666 380 1,167 524 - 1,023 77
Flensburg	-	-	-	-		-	1	268	_	_
TOTAL -	635	25,738	662	29,868	635	29,993	622	25,059	641	29,696

OUTWARDS.

Nationality of Vessels.	1	1861.		1862.		1863.		1864.		1865.	
rationality of Vessels.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
Great Britain British Colonial United States Denmark France Holland Portugal Hanover Sweden Spain Mecklenburg Flensburg Venezuela Total	39 1 34 123 1 1 50	8,407 10,473 5,438 268 254 747 131 174 255 —	37 393 29 2 16 107 1 —————————————————————————————————	9,601 12,000 4,513 536 148 647 131 	37 383 10 4 30 103 5 1 55 - 1 - 1	9,947 12,670 1,795 449 261 753 528 148 2,031 — 332 — 148	18 419 11 12 17 56 2 1 52 — 1 — 589	5,184 14,208 1,534 393 210 686 239 322 2,041 — 268 —	36 329 13 14 50 136 4 — 53 1 — —	10,721 12,910 1,893 666 380 1,111 524 1,100 63 ——————————————————————————————————	

Agriculture.

The following statement shows the Sugar Crops of the last five years :-

Year.				Hhds.
				9,486
1861			19	
1862	•		-	10,700
1863	-	-	-	11,545
1864	•		1	5,932
1865	•		-	12,493

The whole area of the Island, according to McMahon's survey of 1828, is 41,851 acres 2 roods 17 perches, of which, at that time, 18,464 acres 1 rood 12 perches were cane land, and 23,378 acres 1 rood 5 perches pasture, mountain, and uncultivated, including sites of sugar works and labourers' villages.

The aggregate number of acres of arable land comprised in the several sugar estates was returned last year as 19,230, of which 18,779 were said to be in cultivation, which would make the area under tillage in 1865 pretty much the same as in 1828.

It is not, therefore, to the extension so much as to the improvement of cultivation

that the greatly increased production of the last few years is attributable.

The soil is rich, but light and very easily worked, and in tillage the St. Kitts planters are surpassed by none in the West Indies, agriculture here having advanced with rapid strides within the last 10 years. And the prompt adoption of implemental husbandry, and recourse to immigration, have enabled them to grapple with and conquer the difficulties consequent on emancipation, to which many of their neighbours for a time entirely succumbed.

No attempt, however, has yet been made to sever the growth from the manufacture of sugar. And on the latter but little care is bestowed, there being a want both of cleanliness and despatch in the boiling house. Indeed, the planter appears generally to

consider weight of more importance than quality.

As a rule the estates appear to be economically worked. The cost, however, of producing a hogshead of sugar is still not less on an average than 101., and sometimes

The crop of the present year, which is now nearly closed, bids fair to exceed that of 1865. The extension of cultivation is only one of time and labour, and even now it is

creeping slowly but steadily year after year up the hill sides.

The soil does not seem so favourable to the growth of cotton as of sugar. So long ago as 1788, in consequence of repeated failures in their sugar crops, an unsuccessful trial of cotton was made. High prices have also again given a temporary impulse to its cultivation, but I doubt if it will long survive the recent fall in the market.

The planter complains a great deal of the indolent and irregular habits of the native To judge, however, from the almost total absence of litigation between employer and labourer in the magistrates' courts, the relations between them cannot be on a very unsatisfactory footing. The current wages are 10d. to 1s. per day for men, 8d. for women, and 4d. for children.

Manufactures, Mines, and Fisheries.

The only mineral exported from this Island is salt.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The following return shows the number of convictions for felony in the Superior Criminal Court :-

Offence.	Sex.				
Onence.	M.	F.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	
Assault with intent to do bodily harm -	14	1	10	5	
Murder	1	-	1	-	
Larceny	7	1	6	2	
Sheep stealing	1	1	1	_	
Money, fraudulently obtaining -	1	1	2		
Cattle stealing	3	_	3		
Rape, assault with intent	6	_ 3	4	2	
Concealing birth of child	_	1	_	1	
Feloniously having connection against					
the order of nature	2		2		
Forgery	2 2		2 2		
Escape from penal gang	1	_	ī		
Setting fire to canes	1	100		1	
Receiving stolen goods	2	VE ILER	2	1	
TOTAL	41	4	34	11	

As compared with 1864, it gives the following result:

Convictions in Superior Court, 1864 47 1865 34 " 22

The returns of summary convictions by magistrates, which I called for some months ago, have not yet been completed, and in consequence of this neglect on the part of the officers whose duty it is to prepare them I am compelled to close this Report, already ST. KITTS.

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too long delayed on this account, without any information on the important subject to which they refer.

Subjoined is a return of the number of prisoners in confinement in the Common

during 1865 :—						
Number of prison	ers committ	ed—				
	offences		-	Males	- 2	240
101	Onences			Females		92
"	debt ·			Males	-	29
"				Females	-	7
		Total	•			668
Greatest number	of prisoners	in confin	emen	t on any one	day,	7th January—
	offences			Males	. J. J. J.	55
	On the same			Females	-	16
***	debt -	Cue les al		Males	-	5
Harles III 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				Females	-	2
		Total	•			78
Smallest number	of prisoners	in confin	ement	t on any one	day,	24th March—
For	offences			Males	-	30
				Females	•	2
,,	debt -		-	Males	•	3
				Females	•	0
						41
		Total		manif minera		41
Greatest number	of prisoners	at hard la	abour	on any one	day,	30th January—
	2100			Maies	-	4/
				Females	•	7
		-				
		Total	•	•		54
Smallest number	of prisoners	at hard l	abour	on any one	day,	3d October—
				Maies	-	20
				Females	-	5
		m . 1				31
		Total	1			
Greatest number	of prisoners	sick on a	any or	ne day, 26th	Janu	ary—
				Males	-	9
				Females	-	0
		m 1				_
		Total				9
Smallest number	of prisoners	sick on a	ny on	e day, 31st	Octob	oer—
				Males		
				Females	•	0
		m . 1				7
		Total	-			1

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

At present there is but one institution in the Island for the reception of paupers,

lunatics, and hospital patients, and none for that of persons afflicted with leprosy.

In a special report on the Cunningham Hospital last year, I mentioned in detail the several steps which had been taken to improve that institution, and remedy certain defects to which attention was called by the Secretary of State in 1864. It is not necessary, therefore, to do more than refer to them here. But in its management an improvement has been effected to which the called the secretary of the secretar improvement has been effected to which no allusion was made on that occasion. In my Despatch, No. 40, of the 30th March 1865, reporting a vacancy in one of the medical districts of the Island, I submitted a plan by which I thought that the services of a resident medical officer, to be responsible for the general government of the establishment, might be secured, and am glad to say, not only that this arrangement has since been carried out, but that the advantages resulting from it are already very apparent. By the Act passed for this purpose, the Board of Guardians has been abolished, and the entire control, subject to the Governor, vested in a medical chief, and under his

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authority rules for the government of the hospital have been made by the Governor in Council, who is also from time to time to determine what subordinate officers are required, and to fix their salaries. It is true that the expectations formed of saving money by the new system have not been realized; indeed, the expenditure has been considerably increased, although not by any means out of proportion to the additional relief afforded by it. Within the present year the average number of inmates has risen from 91 to 116; and in the last quarter there were nearly twice as many patients admitted as in either of the corresponding quarters of 1864 or 1865. In fact, the place was constantly so full that it became absolutely necessary to provide temporary additional accommodation without any further delay, which has been done by hiring a house in the immediate neighbourhood. It is, however, intended, as soon as practicable, to build a separate asylum for lunatics, a measure urged by the medical superintendent, who reports that with the present arrangements "it is very difficult to treat satisfactorily the cases of mental derangement placed under his care, and it is likewise impossible " to prevent casualties occurring by the escape of lunatics, or by their quarrelling with " and assaulting the other inmates of the establishment, without putting them under such " close and constant restraint as would preclude the chance of their recovery, seriously " injure their general health, and subject them to such punishment as should only be " inflicted on criminals."

With regard to lepers, although it does not appear to have been intended by the Legislature that they should be a charge on the hospital funds, the Board of Guardians, finding no special provision made for them, humanely adopted with respect to them a system of outdoor relief as the only one applicable to persons afflicted as they are, and for some years past every leper in the Island has received a weekly allowance from the hospital. The superintendent, however, complains, and not, I think, without some reason, of the inconvenience, nuisance, and danger of a weekly assemblage of these unfortunate persons at the entrance of the public hospital, and recommends, on that and other good grounds, the establishment of a lazaretto. Indeed, so strongly did I feel the necessity for a place of the kind, that during my administration of this Government last year I made a proposal for the conversion of some of the remaining buildings on Brimstone Hill into an asylum for these unhappy people, who are reported to be on the increase here. To this project, as one from which much alleviation of human suffering might be expected, the Secretary of State promised his cordial co-operation, on condition that the law of the Colony, with regard to the apprehension and imprisonment of lepers at large asking alms or seeking precarious support, should be amended, so as to prevent such an asylum from being made a place of undue confinement and restraint. And I propose to take the earliest opportunity of introducing a measure in accordance with those views.

ANGUILLA.

Anguilla lies 60 miles north-east of St. Kitts. It is 16 miles in length, and varies in breadth from three miles to one and a half, containing an area of 35 square miles.

This Island was so fully described by your Excellency in 1860, that it is unnecessary for me to add to the length of this Report by any remarks of my own on the subject.

It forms part of the Lieutenant-Government of St. Kitts, but the local administration is in the hands of a stipendiary magistrate paid by the Imperial Government, assisted by a vestry, of which he is the president.

The vestry consists of the president, the rector, and 11 members elected by the male inhabitants who pay rates.

By an Act of the Legislature of St. Christopher and Anguilla of the 27th February 1846, the vestry, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, was authorized to levy taxes for local purposes. The Act under which these taxes are raised has never, it seems, received the sanction of the Crown, which was withheld on the ground that no Colonial Legislature can lawfully or constitutionally delegate such extensive powers to any subordinate authority, inasmuch as they are vested in the Colonial Legislature itself, subject to many restrictions and qualifications, which are not extended, and which indeed could not have been extended, by that Act to the vestry of Anguilla in the exercise of the powers of taxation thus confided to them. This power has nevertheless been continuously exercised, without further exception taken, from the passing of the Act to the present day.

The taxes raised under it are on houses, land, imports, and licences far retailing wines, spirits, and other goods. Besides the revenue derived from these taxes, there is a royalty of $2\frac{1}{2}d$. payable on every barrel of salt exported from the Island, which has been

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made over to the Colony by the Crown, and which in 1864 yielded 470l. 2s. 10d., and last year 157l. 7s. 11d.

Annexed is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Island for 1864 and 1865, that of the latter year being given in detail; also a list of the principal officers on

the civil, judicial, and ecclesiastical establishments.

The cultivation of sugar has been virtually abandoned. On visiting the Island last year, I found but one small patch of very indifferent canes, not an acre in extent. soil and climate are evidently better adapted for the growth of cotton, the cultivation of which was considerably extended under the stimulus of the high prices which prevailed during the American war, and there were said to be from 800 to 1,000 acres in cotton last year.

The people of Anguilla are a remarkably fine-grown race, and easily distinguishable among the inhabitants of all the neighbouring islands. Their habits are very migratory.

The population is said to be increasing, but hardly, I think, exceeds 2,500.

There is no church, but Divine Service is regularly performed in the school-house, and there are two Wesleyan chapels, with one officiating minister for Anguilla and the neighbouring island of St. Martin. The majority of the population is Wesleyan. There are two Church and several Wesleyan schools in the Island.

The improvements in the administration of justice effected during the past year are

(Signed)

noticed in a former part of this Report, under the head of Legislation.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor, Administering the General Government, Antigua.

JAS. R. HOLLIGAN:

Sub-Encl. in No. 14.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 14.

Immigration Office, St. Kitts, 30th June 1866. SIR, I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator of the Government, that of the 337 Coolie immigrants imported here in June 1861 the deaths to date have been as follows:

Most of them were ill on arrival. Adults after allotment 10 In hospital and never allotted -Landed nearly in a dying state. 6 Murdered 1 Executed 22 Total

Of the 331 allotted, only 312 were by age competent to enter into indenture, the remaining number

being children under six years of age.

At the termination of the 3d and 4th years of indenture, 63 of these immigrants paid the amount prescribed under the 24th section of the Immigration Act, No. 152, in commutation of further service,

and left the Island for Demerara and Trinidad.

On the 3d instant the indentures of the remaining number expired.

With the view of securing their services, I have endeavoured to ascertain, as directed by his Honour, how far they might be induced, by the gratuity of 10l and a free back passage, to re-indenture for another period of five years, on the same terms as they did for the last five years, under 24th section of the Immigration Act.

This offer was pretty generally declined. Some declared their fixed intention to leave for Demerara, and others expressed their unwillingness to re-indenture, preferring, as they stated, to work when and where they pleased, notwithstanding I explained to them that their refusal to re-indenture would deprive them of the privilege of a free passage, and compel them to pay 7l. 5s. 10d., or 73 rupees, in order to their return to Calcutta after 10 years' residence.

A few only, in all about 30, seemed willing to accept the offer of a free back passage and the bounty

of 10l. for a re-indenture of five years, either, as I explained to them, by contracting annually, or for three and afterwards for two years to the same or any other estate.

These I requested to select their estates and employers, and to give me notice of their intention to re-indenture, and I would then be able to let them know whether the Government would put me in a recition to give me notice of their intention.

Their movements, however, have since been so shifting and uncertain that up to this time I have been unable to ascertain with any degree of certainty what are their wishes in this respect, and how

many are disposed to accede to these terms.

The planters too, who were eager enough at first to accept a re-indenture on payment of half bounty, have since nearly all declined to do so, being, as they state, convinced that the recipients of the 10% would run off the Island to Demerara or Trinidad on the first opportunity, an opinion in which I fully coincide, as many of those who have remained are, I believe, compelled to do so for the want of means to get away.

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On the 17th instant 61 Coolies who had obtained industrial certificates left the Island with their children in the Royal Mail Steamer for Demerara, and on the 28th instant 23 more followed for the same Colony in the sloop "Mary Ann." These immigrants took away with them, I understand, a large amount of ready money. I am convinced that nowhere can immigrants be better treated than these have been in this Island, and that by-and-by they will find it to their cost, that their departure has not been of advantage to them, either in respect of wages, treatment, or the enjoyment of their health.

After this exodus there must therefore be in the Island 143 of the original 312 Coolies capable of

signing a re-indenture, exclusive of some children who have since become adults.

The Coolies are in my opinion not a grateful race. Very many instances have come under my observation in proof of this assertion, one of which I may mention:—The interpreter, De Cruise, a Coolie, who came with the immigrants as a supernumerary cook, landed here with only the garments on his person. I furnished him gratuitously with clothes, and employed him as interpreter for a little time at \$12 a month, with a house, shortly afterwards raised to \$16, and within the last three years to \$20 a month, with \$5, and all my cast-off clothes, added from myself, to say nothing of his being often fed from my table. This would seem, for a person who could neither read nor write, landed here in his destitute condition, as something for which to be grateful; yet this man, who, notwithstanding his high wages, had not saved money, was the first to declare his intention of leaving for Demerara, and doubtless his determination considerably influenced his countrymen to follow him.

Another inducing motive too, I am led to understand, was their belief that no more Coolies would be imported here, and their longing desire to go where they would find a large number of their race.

The class of immigrants most preferred by the planters is the Portuguese. A cargo of 150 was written for from Madeira some months ago, but up to this time nothing definite is known as to whether we are likely to obtain them. The authorities in their Island have lately thrown as a present whether we are likely to obtain them. The authorities in that Island have lately thrown so many obstacles in the way of emigration, that I am by no means sanguine of success in the application from that quarter.

The planters are everywhere crying out for the importation of more immigrants.

Liberated Africans can only be obtained when there is a supply at Sierra Leone, and I believe there are not any there now. It would therefore seem that the only course open is to supply the want from

A planter assured me a few days ago that this year's and next year's crop would fall short for want of labour, and that he would gladly employ 50 people daily, in addition to those then working on his

There are at present only 46 Portuguese immigrants under indenture; of these, 19 will be released from their contract on the 13th August, and 15 on 21st August next, and 12 on 9th October next.

The indentures of all the adult liberated Africans will expire on the 27th August next.

The health of these immigrants has been remarkably good since their location.

W. P. Clarke, Esq., Private Secretary.

I have, &c., (Signed) WM. PADMORE, Superintendent of Immigrants.

B.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of ANGUILLA.

	1864.	
Revenue.	Expenditure.	
£891 10 1½	£472 4 $9\frac{1}{2}$	
Revenue.	1865. Expenditure.	
House and land tax Arrears of do. Import duties Rent from Salt Company Licences to retail— Spirit£36 13 4 Merchandise - 9 4 4½ Fines and costs Seizures	Relief of poor	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

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C. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS in ANGUILLA.

Office.	Name.	Date of Appointment.	By whom appointed.	Salary.	From what Fund.	Remarks.	
Presiding Magistrate -	Geo. Alsbury -	5 Dec. 1863	The Crown -	£ s. d. 450 0 0	British Treasury	Is also President of the Vestry with 50l. per annum.	
Treasurer	Do.	1 June 1864	LieutGovernor	Nil.	- 1	Receives commission of 5 per cent. on all receipts. Average commission 30l. per annum.	
Colonial Secretary -	J. P. C. Lake -	19 April 1865	Administrator of the Government.	30 0 0	Anguilla Treasury	Fees averaging 8l. per annum.	
Registrar	Do.	Do.	Do.	Nil.	-	Fees averaging 20l. per annum.	
Coroner	Do.	Do.	Do.	8 6 8	Anguilla Treasury		
Notary Public -	Do.	Do.	Do.	Nil.	_	Fees averaging 8l. per annum.	
Provost Marshal -	Joshua Lake -	18 Dec. 1865	LieutGovernor	25 0 0	Anguilla Treasury	Fees averaging 8l. per annum.	
Clerk of Vestry -	Do.	3 Mar. 1866	Do.	15 0 0	Do.		
Officiating Minister -	Rev. H. Warneford		Bishop of the Diocese.	185 0 0	British Treasury	Receives 15l. per annum from Anguilla Treasury.	
Schoolmaster	S. E. Arthur -	4 June 1866	Do.	39 3 4	Do.	Receives 121. 10s. per annum from Anguilla Treasury.	

The Chief Justice of St. Christopher is the Chief Justice of Anguilla, and receives 100%, per annum from British Treasury.

NEVIS.

No. 15.

No. 39.

Sept. 27, 1866.

NEVIS.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right Honourable the EARL of CARNARVON.

(No. 157.) My Lord,

Leeward Islands, Antigua, 19th October 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Despatch from the Administrator of the Government of Nevis, forwarding, with his Report thereon, the Blue Book of that Island for the year ended 31st of December 1865. I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c.

(Signed)

BENJ. C. C. PINE.

(No. 39.)

SIR,

Queen's House, Nevis, 27th September 1866. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1865.

1. Taxes, &c.

Duties and other sources of revenue have been increased in the ratio of 25 per cent. on imports and exports, in order to meet the exigencies of the Colony arising from longoutstanding claims accumulated from year to year.

The result of this increase of impost is, that these exigencies, of whatsoever nature, are now in a rapid process of liquidation, and bid fair that in 12 months the Colony will

be free from debt.

2. Fees.

Fees are now being abolished; the Legislature has passed an Act to abolish burial fees, at the same time respecting vested rights, by compensation from the Public Treasury. This measure is hailed by all members of the community as a great boon. Other reformations in the Departments exacting fees are now under consideration, and the same measure meted to the Ecclesiastical Establishment will no doubt be promptly done to others.

NEVIS.

3. Revenue, &c.

The Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony have both been increased—the first necessarily to meet the latter. Hitherto 5,000l. have on an average met the annual expenditure, and under ordinary circumstances would meet the current expenditure of any given year; but as a public debt of 4,150l. had to be paid, so larger means had to be provided. With this object in view, it was resolved by the Government that a loan of 2,000l. should be contracted, and that debentures not exceeding 500l. should be placed in the market, the first payable in 24 months, and the latter in 12. So far as these engagements are concerned, they have been kept, and there is no reason to doubt the public faith in respect to the redemption of the debentures.

4. Comparative Statements, &c.

The statements contained in the book explain the respective causes of increase and decrease.

5. Local Revenues.

Consist of taxes assessed by the respective vestries, varying from four to six per cent. per annum on all real and household property. It is, however, thought advisable to abolish the institution of vestries, and to provide for all parochial expenses out of the General Revenue of the Colony.

6. Public Debt.

The Public Debt amounts to 4,150l.; there is, however, every reasonable prospect, as is before mentioned, that this amount will be liquidated in a short time.

7. Military Expenditure.

None.

8. Public Works.

The partial circumvallation of the Charlestown Cemetery represents Public Works for the year; it is now in part completed, and will require at least 150l. to perfect its completion, but this can hardly be effected until the Public Debt is paid.

9. Legislation.

The following Acts have been passed:

- 1. "An Act to make the Salaries of Public Officers and of other Persons payable by monthly in place of quarterly Payments."
- 2. " An Act to regulate the Employment of Convicts in Works of public Utility."
- 3. " An Act to impose a Tax upon Horses, Carriages, and other Vehicles."
- 4. "An Act to authorize the Payment of Compensation to Witnesses in Cases of summary Convictions and Orders."
- 5. "An Act to regulate the Sittings of the Police Magistrate in the Town of Charles"town and in the Parishes of Saint James and Saint George."
- 6. "An Act to authorize the Administrative Committee to raise by Loan the Sum of "Two thousand Pounds, Sterling Money, and to impose additional Duties for "the Payment thereof."
- 7. "A Proclamation regulating the Value at which the Peseta should be received at "the Treasury."
- 8. "An Act to apply the Sum of 5,288l. 0s. 10\frac{1}{4}d. of the Public Revenue for the "Service of the Year 1865 as per Schedule annexed."
- 9. "An Act to render valid Acts hereafter to be passed by the Legislature of this "Island which may receive the Sanction of the Executive Authority subsequently to the Termination of the Session in which the same may be passed."

NEVIS.

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- 10. "An Act to authorize the Administrative Committee to raise by Loan for the "Public Service the Sum of 500l., and for securing the Repayment of the "same."
- 11. "An Act to provide for Appeals from summary Convictions and Orders before "Justices of the Peace."
- 12. " An Act to establish an Appeal from the Decisions of the Judge of the Court of "Complaints."
- 13. "An Act to extend to the Island of Nevis the Jurisdiction of the Court of "Appeal for the Leeward Islands."
- 14. " An Act to repress Trespasses by Stock."
- 15. " An Act to repress Trespasses by Sheep."
- 16. "An Act subsidiary to the Import and Export Tax Act, dated the 28th day of "December 1858, and to an Act entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the "Import and Export Tax Act, dated 15th day of December 1859."
- 17. "An Act to repeal an Act to provide for the Amendment and Preservation of "the Public Roads and Highways, and to make Provision in lieu thereof."
- 18. " An Act to provide for the Appointment of a resident Chief Justice."
- 19. " An Act to regulate the Costs of the Barristers and Attorneys of this Island."
- 20. " A Proclamation offering a Reward of 500l. for Information in felonious Attempt " to set fire to Queen's House."
- 21. " A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses from 7th November to "7th December."
- 22. "A Proclamation declaring Guadeloupe to be an 'infected Place,' and to "establish Quarantine Regulations."
- 23. "An Act to enable the President in Council to make Regulations for the "Government of the Pier, and to authorize the Payment of all requisite "Repairs to such Pier, and also the Salary of a Pier Keeper, out of Moneys "raised under and by virtue of the Tonnage Act."
- 24. "An Act to abolish certain Burial Fees, and to make Compensation to the present "Officers for and in lieu of Fees."
- 25. " An Act for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors in the Island of Nevis."
- 26. " A Proclamation declaring Dominica, Saint Martin's, and Sombrero to be infected "Places, and to establish Quarantine Regulations."
- 27. " An Act to simplify and expedite the Administration of Justice."
- 28. " A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses to the 4th day of December.
- 29. " An Act to establish a Post Office in the Island of Nevis."

10. Political Franchise.

Remains as heretofore reported, although it is certain that a change is necessary. The intelligence of the community is but partially represented, as against the petty holders of fragments of land; as for instance, leaseholders of 100 or 1,000 acres of land, with approved mental qualification, have no part at elections, although their investments may be worth one hundred fold more than that of the small freeholder.

11. Councils and Assembly.

These institutions, as recognized, subsist during Her Majesty's pleasure. The Assembly is elective, and is of annual duration.

12. Civil Establishment.

Comprise all officials. In this Department there is no subject for report.

13. Security for discharge of Duties.

The same as have been hitherto reported.

14. Pensions.

The same.

15. Abstract of Expenditure.

Reflected by Sections 3 and 4, which need no further comment.

NEVIS.

16. Nil.

17. Population.

Population, as respects numbers, is almost stationary. In the chapter of births and deaths the advantage is in favour of births, but, as a matter of fact, emigration reduces the balance. This has been the misfortune of Nevis for many years.

18. Savings Banks, &c.

None.

19. Corns, &c.

Represented in their proper places.

20. Imports and Exports.

These are subjects of report second only to agriculture. The staples hitherto have been sugar, rum, and molasses; cotton may now be added. There are upwards of 500 acres of land under cultivation of this article, and as the staples have increased, so it is to be hoped the trade of the Colony will be more largely developed.

21. Shipping.

It is to be regretted that the amount of tonnage has decreased as compared with former years, both inwards and outwards, but this anomaly may be explained by the fact that a very considerable portion of the trade of the Colony is now carried on in large unregistered boats not given as tonnage.

22. Agriculture.

A decided extension in agriculture has taken place. The article cotton, for half a century abandoned, now promises to become a staple in the true sense. There are, however, complaints in respect to the supply of labour, although the daily wages offered seems to be sufficient.

23. Manufactures, &c.

Nothing worthy of remark.

24. Grants of Land.

No Crown lands reserved for this purpose.

25. Gaols, &c.

There is one gaol in this Island, capable of containing 75 prisoners. The average of occupants is 15 per day. These are under the superintendence of three male and one female officers. The gaol is attended by a paid chaplain and a paid surgeon.

26. Charitable Institutions, &c.

There is an asylum for the relief of the indigent poor. The occupants average about 30. It is provided for by an annual grant of 250l. per annum. At present it is contemplated to enlarge the buildings, with a view to greater usefulness and convenience.

27. On a general review of the state of the Colony, I have no hesitation in stating that it is lifting itself from debt, and bids fair at no distant period to be happy and prosperous.

> I have, &c., WALTER MAYNARD, (Signed) Administrator.

His Excellency Sir B. C. C. Pine, Lieutenant-Governor, &c. &c.

18090.

VIRGIN ISLANDS. No. 16.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 16.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right (No. 99.)

Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

SIR,

Leeward Islands, Queen's House, Nevis, 8th June 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a Despatch from the President of the Virgin Islands, forwarding the Blue Book for 1865, together with a Report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c., (Signed) BENJ. C. C. PINE.

(No. 39.)

Sir, Tortola, 25th May 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for 1865.

2. I arrived in the Virgin Islands at the end of the year. I have therefore requested the Colonial Secretary to draw up the usual Report for 1865. I regret to have to add, that my subsequent personal experience tends to corroborate his gloomy statements under the heads of education and agriculture.

3. In consequence of the death, in February last, of the late lamented Treasurer,

Mr. Sinclair Bryan, the return has been unavoidably delayed.

I have, &c., (Signed) ARTHUR RUMBOLD.

His Excellency Sir B. C. C. Pine, &c. &c. &c.

Sir, Colonial Secretary's Office, Tortola, 22d May 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1865, and, in compliance with your desire, I make a few remarks on the same.

Revenue.

2. The Revenue of 1865 shows a decrease, compared with that of 1864, of 217l. 2s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$. This appears to be, in the first place, due to the taxes on houses, male servants, and dogs for the year 1863 having been brought to account in 1864; secondly, to a decrease in the importation of articles liable to import duties, and the repeal of the tax on produce.

Expenditure.

3. The actual Expenditure of 1865 amounted to 1,891l. 15s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}d$., being less by 178l. 15s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}d$. than that of 1864. There were, however, some outstanding accounts at the close of the year for rent of buildings, printing, &c., which could not be paid off; those added to the difference between the amounts paid on the consolidated debt in 1864 and 1865, say 102l. 19s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}d$., would very nearly equal the amount expended in 1864.

Local Revenue.

4. The Local Revenue stated at page 44 is exclusively appropriated to the repair of the public roads, and is derived from those persons who object to labour on the roads.

Public Debt.

5. The original amount of this debt was 4,619l. 14s. 1d., 489l. 19s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$. of which was paid off previous to 1864, in which year a compromise of the balance was effected with the creditors of 2s. in the pound, by three instalments, and 206l. 9s. 1d. was paid on it in 1864, and 103l. 4s. $8\frac{1}{2}d$. in 1865.

The balance of this debt will be paid off this year.

Military.

6. The expenditure on account of the Militia amounted to 36l. 17s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$., chiefly for the pay of the drummer and fifer, and care of the arms.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Public Works.

7. The sum of 46l. 13s. 10d. was expended out of the funds of the Colony in repairs of various public buildings, the largest item being for repairing the pier, the erection of which, in the year 1861, has proved of immense convenience to the public generally.

By the great liberality of Her Majesty's Government in the grant of 607l. 19s. 7d. to the Colony from the first year's rental of Sombrero, the building of a court-house and public offices, so much required, has been commenced, and the sum of 298l. 14s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. was expended to 31st December. The total estimated cost was 1,050l., but, from the actual expenditure as far as the building has progressed, it appears that the estimate was short by about 140l.

This building, when complete, will not only be a great improvement on the present system of leasing private houses, of very inadequate accommodation and security, for a court-house and public offices, but will be a saving of an annual expenditure of upwards of 701.

Legislation.

8. Two Ordinances only were passed in 1865; namely, "An Ordinance to repeal the Boat Licence Ordinance, and to make other enactments in lieu thereof;" and an Ordinance to appoint a Stipendiary Magistrate. The first Ordinance differs from the one it repealed chiefly in requiring the measurement of the boats to be over all from the outer part of the head of the stem to the outer part of the head of the stern post, and by increasing the penalty for evading the payment of the tax.

The last-named Ordinance was passed with a view to obtain the services of a legal

gentleman to preside at the Court of Petty Sessions.

Population.

9. The census taken in 1861 showed the population of the Virgin Islands to be - - - - 6.051

Since which the births and deaths have been as follows:-

	1861							Births.	Deaths. 124	
	1862					1	-	217	149	
1 4	1863	-	-				-	273	163	
	1864		-	-		100 M	-	227	157	
	1865	-	-	-			-	215	133	
		01.					-	1,116	726	
showing	an exce	ss of bu	rths over	deaths	of	TO SERVE	•	-1		

making the present population about - - - - 6,44

As there has been no immigration or emigration of any consequence, many of the labourers resort to St. Thomas for a few weeks at a time, earn a few dollars at the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Coalyard, and return to spend it in idleness; these must still be considered as a part of the population of the Virgin Islands.

Poor.

10. The relief afforded to the destitute poor in the Colony forms a heavy item in the expenditure, being over nine per cent. of the gross revenue, yet the allowance does not in general seem adequate to the individual requirements of the paupers.

Education.

11. There are in the daily schools attached to the Established Church 193 children, and in those of the Wesleyans 283, making a total of 479 children. No children under the age of 5 nor over 12 years are admitted into these schools, hoping thereby to turn their attention more to husbandry; this does not appear to have had the desired effect, for it is notorious that the present growing generation are less disposed to labour, and are more lawless, than those who immediately preceded them; and, in fact, every year shows the labouring population to be fast falling into a state of semi-barbarism.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Imports and Exports.

12. There have been no Imports direct from the United Kingdom; all Imports therefrom come by the Royal Mail Steam Packets, and as none of these vessels touch at this port the goods passing through the Danish Island of St. Thomas appear as Imports therefrom.

There is very little trade between the Virgin Islands and any other Island than St. Thomas.

The Imports in 1865 were 8,638 7 0 1864 ,, 6 8,148 4 Showing an increase of 6 490 2

Had there not been the casualty of a wreck, the Imports from which amounted to 1,429l. 7s. 9d., there would have been a decrease of 939l. 5s. 3d.

The duties on Imports are not general, but confined to a few articles.

The Exports of the Colony consist chiefly of cattle and small stock, cotton, charcoal, building lime, and sugar cane.

8,637 The value of the Exports for 1865 was 12,306 16 In the previous year -0 Showing a decrease of 3,669 14

Agriculture.

13. There is no means of arriving at anything like a correct estimate of the acreage of cultivated land, or of the value of the produce; the cultivation of sugar is almost abandoned, the 20 estates mentioned in page 205 of the Blue Book as being "sugar estates" simply mean so many properties, with one or two exceptions, not deserving the description of "cultivated estates."

The cotton cultivation is extremely scattered, and, with perhaps one exception, no cultivator is at all able to give an approximate idea of the number of acres he has in cultivation. The cotton crop exported in 1865 exceeded in weight, though not in value, that of 1864 by 10,105 pounds; the difference in value is caused by the fluctuating price given at St. Thomas for the article, whither all the cotton was exported, and most of it sold.

The cultivation of cotton is increasing; in 1863 there were only 5,375 pounds exported. There is no doubt that capital invested in the cultivation of cotton in the Virgin Islands would prove to be a judicious investment if labour could be imported, the soil being peculiarly well adapted to the rearing of this staple.

Gaols and Prisoners.

14. There was but one felon committed to prison during the year; he was a boy who in the heat of passion threw a stone at another boy with whom he was fighting, which caused his death; the circumstances of the case appear not to have been considered by the Court aggravated, as the boy was only sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour; seven were committed for theft; twelve for assaults; four for want of surety to keep the peace; fourteen for petty offences, and one for debt. This does not, however, show a true statement of the number of offences brought before the Court, for the fines imposed by the Magistrates being in general exceedingly moderate, the parties pay them at once.

There were 115 convictions before the Court of Petty Sessions, five of which were for trespass of stock; the remaining 110 were for assaults, thefts, destruction of property, and the like. Of this last number 77 paid their fines, varying from 3l. to 2s.

The number of sick prisoners stated in columns 10 and 11, page 224, were not seriously ill, but suffered from the low fever which prevailed here during the fall of the

Some trifling repairs were made to the gaol during the year, and it can now be reported in good order.

Sir Arthur Rumbold, Baronet, President administering the Government, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c., GEO. H. A. PORTER, (Signed) Colonial Secretary.

DOMINICA.

Dominica.
No. 17.

No. 17.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir Benjamin Pine to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 67.)

My LORD,

Government House, St. Christopher,

31st October 1866.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book for Dominica for 1865, together with Lieutenant-Governor Longden's Report thereon.

No. 100, Oct. 20 .1866.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) I have, &c., BENJ. C. C. PINE.

(No. 100.)

Government House, Roseau, 20th October 1866.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1865, with my Report thereon.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

1. During the year 1865 several Acts were passed by the Legislative Assembly with a view of increasing the permanent Revenue, which has since 1860 been insufficient to

meet the expenditure.

2. By an Act passed on the 6th of March 1865, the Excise duty on rum was increased from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 3d. a gallon. The effect of this increase of duty is not satisfactory, as it appears from the comparative returns of the Revenue that the rum duty received in 1865 was 462l. less than in 1864. The decrease is said by the Colonial Secretary to be "wholly unaccountable," but it is in my opinion owing partly to the impetus given to smuggling by the high duty, and partly to the defective state of the law. A new Bill is now before the Legislative Assembly, the provisions of which will, I hope, be found sufficiently stringent to protect the honest trader and prevent the frauds now practised on the Revenue.

3. The Custom duties were raised in 1864, and 10 per cent. added in 1865. They vary generally from 11 to 22 per cent. The present tariff is in force only until the 1st of January next. Some of the duties on salt fish and other food of the people ought to be reduced, but the bulk of the tariff cannot be reduced until the debts of the Colony

are paid off.

4. By an Act passed in June 1865 a direct tax was imposed on all houses and huts scattered over the Island not before taxed; also an income tax on all "salaries, fees, and emoluments," at the rate of three per cent.; and a duty on every boat or flat. By the same Act heavy annual licences were imposed upon merchants, shopkeepers, and pedlars; upon barristers, solicitors, and medical practitioners; and upon civil engineers, surveyors, auctioneers, printers, druggists, millwrights, blacksmiths, butchers, boatmen, and porters. The tax on houses under this Act has proved very oppressive upon the poorer classes, chiefly through the difficulty of assessing the tax, and the want of adequate means of collecting it. I intend to propose the repeal of the tax, which is exciting much reasonable discontent. The other direct taxes must be continued for the present.

Fees.

5. The coroners were paid by a fee from the Public Treasury on each inquest held by them. Under this system the number of inquests gradually increased, and the expense of this service was augmented in proportion. In 1866 a Bill was passed granting fixed salaries to each of the three coroners in lieu of fees. This Act will effect a considerable saving.

6. The fees payable on legal proceedings were fixed in 1832, and are complained of as burdensome. On a general revision of the Acts regulating the administration of justice, provision should be made for regulating the fees on a more moderate scale.

DOMINICA.

7. The fees of the Roman Catholic clergy are voluntary gifts of the members of their Church, and are not recoverable by law.

Revenue and Expenditure.

8. The Revenue received in 1865 was 13,271l. 18s. 9d., being an increase of 1,101l. 18s. 8d. over that of the year 1864 (exclusive of the loan). The increase is due to the increased Custom duties, and new taxes. The rum duties and road collections decreased to the extent, together, of 708l. 17s. 2d.

9. The Expenditure was 12,786l. 16s. 2d. This included a sum of 3,480l. 1s. 6d.,

the amount of arrears of salaries to public officers, and other debts of 1864 paid in

1865.

10. On the other hand, there were on the 31st December 1865 the following outstanding liabilities :-

			£	S.	d.
Arrears of officers' salaries for 1	865 unpaid	40	3,579	3	4
Contingent claims for 1865			698	13	6
Police clothing due since 1861	-	•	110	11	6
Total -			4,388	8	4

Public Debt.

11. The Public Debt at the end of 1865 consisted of the liabilities above named, and of a sum of 6,5201. due to Her Majesty's Government on account of the Hurricane Loan of 1836, making a total debt of 10,908l. 8s. 4d.

Public Works.

12. The principal public work proceeding in 1865 was the bridge over the Melville Hall River, a large and rapid stream flowing through a populous and well-cultivated district in the north-west part of the Island. The bridge was designed by the civil engineer, Mr. Blanc, and erected under his superintendence. It was constructed of wood, with a span of 64 feet between the piers, which were of solid masonry. Unfortunately, just as the bridge was completed a heavy flood took place during the absence of the engineer, and the whole bridge was completely washed away into the sea. The total cost of the bridge up to the time of its destruction was 435*l*., of which 97*l*. was spent in 1865, and the rest in 1864. The destruction of this bridge is a great loss, as there are not at present the means of building another. In fording the river in dry weather I found the water up to the flaps of my saddle. In wet weather and in floods communication between the opposite banks is sometimes interrupted for miles up the The want of a bridge at this place is therefore a public inconvenience.

13. The only other works carried on in 1865 were some repairs to the gaol, executed at a cost of 40*l*., and petty repairs at a cost of 17*l*. to various buildings.

Legislation.

14. Fifteen Acts were passed in 1865. Of these, nine related to the Revenue, two to the Post Office, and one to the appointment of Commissioners of Roads. One Act authorized a loan of 6,000l.; this Act has been repealed in consequence of the difficulty of raising the loan. One Act authorized the appointment of a solicitor to the Legislature, but was disallowed. The remaining Act was the Supplementary Constitution Act.

15. This Act was passed during the administration of Governor Robinson. It abolished the Legislative Assembly created by the Constitution Act passed under Lieut.-Governor Price's administration in 1863, and substituted the existing Legislature. The Assembly, created on the abolition of the old "Council and Assembly" in 1863, was composed of nineteen elected and nine nominee members, presided over by an elected Speaker. The present Assembly consists of seven elected and seven nominee members, presided over by the Lieutenant-Governor in person. It is, perhaps, too early to report positively on the change of Constitution, and having had no experience of the old Legislature it is impossible for me to contrast the two systems. But I can at least report that the present system appears to me suitable to the Colony. The measures which have been successively brought forward have been discussed with temperate fairness, and with an evident regard for the welfare of the community, while the sub-

stitution of a single Council for the three branches of Legislature which formerly DOMINICA. existed has simplified and facilitated legislation. The Acts passed by the new Assembly belong almost entirely to the year 1866, and will be more fitly reported upon in the Blue Book for this year.

Civil Establishment.

16. The list of the Establishment is very large, comprising no less than 53 salaried offices, 39 offices paid by allowances from the Public Treasury, and 10 paid by fees from

17. Owing to financial embarrassments the salaried officers were kept during the year 1865 from seven to nine months in arrear of their salaries—a grievous inconvenience to

some of them. Their arrears were paid off in April 1866.

18. The Establishment is greater than the Colony can afford to maintain. It must be reduced. Some steps in the way of retrenchment have been made, and others are now under consideration of Her Majesty's Government. As the annual deficiency since 1860 has averaged 900l., the Establishment ought to be reduced by 900l. a year. The Retrenchment Bill (if assented to), the Coroners Act, and the Register of Voters Act, all passed in 1866, will effect a saving of about 900l. a year.

Population.

19. The census of 1860 gave a population of 25,060. The returns of the Registrar General show an excess of births over deaths, amounting to 1,136 in five years and a half, or at the rate of 206 a year, equivalent to an annual increase of 0.82 per cent. of the population. I find that the increase in England is (allowing for emigrants and immigrants) 1.46 per cent. per annum, or nearly double the rate here. The information I have received leads me to believe that the registration of births is defective, and my observation on a tour round the Island disposes me to think that the population is not under 30,000.

20. A remnant of the aboriginal Charib population still survive in Dominica. They are mostly settled in and round a secluded valley on the windward side of the Island, called Salibia. The number of pure Charibs in this settlement are reckoned by Abbé Poujade at 440. There are a few more to be found in the northern part of the Island, near Vielle Case. The village of Salibia is a collection of very poor huts surrounding a larger one which is used as their church. The men are expert fishermen and boatmen, almost as much at home in the water as on land. I saw no attempt at agriculture beyond a few provisions. There is one industry which is, I believe, peculiar to the Charibs of Dominica and the Indians of Demerara, the manufacture of the humattas, or Indian baskets, which are so closely woven as to be waterproof. The Charibs are quiet and inoffensive, and rarely come before the courts of justice.

21. One cannot but feel a sad interest in this remnant of an ancient and vanishing The Charibs here have been converted to Christianity by the Roman Catholic priests. It would be a harder task to teach them habits of settled industry, and I doubt if any good would be attained by attempting it. The duty of the Government towards them would, in my opinion, be best fulfilled by protecting them from the aggression of other settlers in the valley where they have settled, and by avoiding all unnecessary

interference with them.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

22. The information given under this head in the Blue Book is very defective, owing to the absence of any official returns. There is no return of Friendly Societies at all. Two exist; one in connection with the Church of England, the other under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. Of the former I enclose an account,* given to me by * Not printed. the Rev. Mr. Roper, the rector of Roseau, who is the chairman of the society. It is called the St. George's Friendly Society, and was organized in 1855. There were 96 members on the list on the 31st of December 1865. The total annual subscriptions for 1865 amounted to 56l. 19s. 5d., and there was a reserve of 115l. in the bank. The objects of the society are to afford aid to the sick, and a decent burial to the dead. Roman Catholic Society of St. Joseph is more of a religious society; it has 180 members in Roseau.

23. The number of paupers receiving "out-door relief" is given as 43; but there are also, on an average, 84 more receiving in-door relief in the poorhouse at Morue Bruce, making a total of 127.

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24. The number of emigrants from Dominica in 1865 is not given; the Colonial Secretary remarks that "very little emigration takes place." I think it right here to notice, that in 1865 there commenced an emigration of labourers to Crab Island (or Viêque), which has since attained considerable proportions; 147 labourers emigrated in 1865. A few of these have returned, but a large number have emigrated to that Island within the last two months. There is no law at present to regulate this emigration, but I am preparing a bill for the purpose. There is no desire to interfere in any way with the right of the labourer to take his labour to the best market; but it is necessary, in the interests of the emigrants themselves, to prevent the crowding of small schooners beyond the bounds of safety. It is also necessary to prevent the emigrants from deserting their wives and families and leaving them behind (as has occurred) to become a burden on public charity. Lastly, it is necessary that the emigrants leaving the Island should be known, in order to prevent young children being taken away (as is alleged to have been done) without the consent of their parents or guardians.

Ecclesiastical and Education.

25. On the provision made for the education of the people and for spiritual instruction and ministration, I had the honour to report fully in my Despatch No. 69, 25th June 1866, to which I would respectfully beg leave to refer.

Exchanges, Weights and Measures.

26. By an Act passed on the 23d of December 1775, and still in force, it is enacted, that "Standards for all Weights at Avoirdupois Weight, and Measures at the Win"chester Measure, shall be forthwith provided at the public expense by the Treasurer,
and lodged with the respective Clerks of the Markets, and all other Weights and
"Measures are to be regulated yearly by them," &c. The law might be advantageously altered to transfer the power of the Clerk of the Market to the Superintendent of Police, and the Measure of Capacity might be altered to the Imperial Standard.

Imports and Exports.

27. The value of Imports into the Colony in 1865 was 52,374l., against 43,558l. in

1864, showing an increase of 8,816l.

28. The value of Exports from the Colony in 1865 was 53,181*l.*, against 48,809*l*. in 1864, showing an increase of 4,372*l*. Still, this is very far below the value exported of late years. In the four years 1860-63 the Exports were as follows:—

				£
1860		-		80,458
1861	-	12.1		100,379
1862	-			94,290
1863	202	21 275	In the state	72,726

showing an average of 86,963l.—more than half as much again as the Exports of 1865.

29. The export of sugar in 1865 was 5,855,912 pounds, being an increase of 1,354,087 pounds over the exports of 1864. I am glad to note an encouraging increase in export of coffee, which has risen from 20,556 pounds in 1864 to 32,276 pounds in 1865. Coffee used to be very largely exported from Dominica, but the trees were attacked with a blight which gradually destroyed nearly all the plantations. The cultivation of coffee and cocoa is peculiarly suitable to the physical configuration of this Island, where the breadth of ground available for cane cultivation is very limited. An interesting experiment is being made in the cultivation of cotton by the Honourable Dr. Imray, but it cannot yet be pronounced successful; the climate appears to be too

wet for the cotton trees.

Agriculture.

30. The tables under this head in the Blue Book give no satisfactory information. A list of prices is attached to these tables. In connection with this I would note, that the prices of beef, veal, mutton, and pork are regulated by the Market Act passed in 1775, which is still in full force. Under this Act any butcher or other person selling at higher than the legal rates is liable to a penalty. The law also fixes the maximum price at which turtle, "seine fish," "hook-and-line fish," and "river fish" shall be sold. The market is at present well supplied. The price of meat, however, is higher by 2d. a pound in Martinique, and the restriction on the price here operates as a premium on the exportation of cattle to that Island for consumption. Accordingly we find that 322

cattle were exported to Martinique in 1864, and 188 in 1865. Should this exportation increase, it will be necessary either to abolish the "law of the maximum" or to raise the price. An assize of bread was fixed by an Act passed in 1793, amended in 1817. The fixed standard was the price, not the weight of the loaf. The weight of the threepenny loaf varied therefore continually from $6\frac{1}{4}$ ounces to $31\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, according to the market price of flour, on a scale fixed by the Acts. This law has fallen into desuetude, and it must always have been difficult to enforce it. Protection to the buyers of bread would be better attained by requiring all loaves to be made of specified weights, leaving the price to be decided by open competition.

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Civil and Criminal Justice.

31. I enclose copies* of the lists furnished by the Chief Justice of all the sentences * Not printed. passed at the sessions of the Supreme Court held in 1865. There were in all 26 prisoners convicted, 22 of whom were sentenced to terms of imprisonment under 12 months each; I was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for an attempt to set a house on fire, 2 to three years each for arson, and 1 to four years for manslaughter.

32. It appears from the report of the Chief Justice that in this last-named case the prisoner might, but for a merciful jury, have been hanged. The prisoner was sentenced "to the full term of imprisonment authorized by law." Four years' imprisonment, with hard labour, does not seem an adequate punishment for a crime which fell little, if at all, short of murder. The terms of imprisonment for manslaughter, burglary, arson, and other grave crimes, ought, in my opinion, to be more nearly assimilated to the scale of punishments contained in the latest English criminal statutes, 24 & 25 Vict., cc. 96, 97, 98, and 100.

33. I enclose returns * of all crimes and offences brought before the Stipendiary and * Not printed. Police Magistrates, and Justices of the Peace, showing how they were dealt with.

returns show the following results:-

1. Number of persons charged with indictable offences and sent for trial, to the Court of Grand Sessions (of whom 26 were tried 42 and convicted) -40 2. Persons charged with indictable offences, dismissed by the magis-38 trates for want of evidence, and not sent to trial -3. Persons convicted summarily before the magistrates for— Assaults 114 Petty thefts -59 393 Indecent language or behaviour 122 Other offences 98 4. Persons charged before the magistrates for offences punishable 152 summarily, and acquitted by the magistrates 5. Persons charged with offences, punishable summarily, in which the charges were withdrawn, settled by consent, or dismissed by 738 magistrates 749 Cases -1,363

34. The number of charges brought before the magistrates is equal to five per cent. of the number of the whole population. Grave crimes are comparatively rare, and two thirds of the charges brought before the magistrates were dismissed or settled; but still more than 400 convictions took place, of which more than a fourth were for indecent behaviour, showing the prevalence among masses of the population of a low tone of morality. It may be hoped that education and religious instruction will in time lessen the number of offences, by elevating the standard of morals.

Charitable Institutions.

35. In addition to the Poorhouse and Lunatic Asylum on Morue Bruce and the Roseau Infirmary (which alone are named in the Blue Book), there is a Female Orphan Asylum, supported chiefly by the Bishop of Roseau. In this asylum 60 female orphans, from 6 to 16 years of age, are lodged, fed, clothed, and taught. Without this refuge, these young girls would now be growing up uncared for and ignorant, and open to all the vice which want and ignorance generate. For my own part I set a higher value upon this asylum than upon many schools. I do not underrate the advantages or necessity of education; but the great crying evil of the West Indian negro populationthe chief and greatest hindrance to their improvement—is the general immorality of the 18090.

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young people of both sexes. I believe that this is one of the chief causes of the slow increase of the population. Children are born into the world, without a home, to be reared as best they may, utterly neglected by their fathers, and too often regarded by their mother (often a young destitute girl) only as a burden. Mere school-book learning will do little to counteract this evil. The encouragement of marriage and the enforcement of family ties will do much more. But the most effectual way of stemming the tide of immorality will be by raising up in the young female population a sense of self-respect, which will soon diminish the prevailing immorality. The Female Orphan Asylum here is the only institution which I have yet seen in the West Indies which appears to me likely to affect the existing social evil. It is a Roman Catholic institution, for this is a Roman Catholic country; but this does not impair its usefulness, which I hope will soon be proved. A handsome stone building is now being erected in Roseau for the orphans, by voluntary contributions. I laid the first stone on the 24th of May, and the walls of the building have been nearly completed.

Government House.

* Not printed.

36. In accordance with the Colonial Regulations (Article 268), I enclose a report* by the Civil Engineer on the state of the Government House of this Colony, and also an inventory of the public furniture therein, made in pursuance of Article 272 of the Colonial Regulations. A copy of this inventory is lodged in the Colonial Secretary's office.

Conclusion.

37. The preparation of the Blue Book has been unavoidably retarded by the illness of the Colonial Treasurer, the Colonial Secretary, and the Auditor General, which I had the honour to bring under your Excellency's notice in my Despatch, No. 70, dated 5th July 1866.

38. For any additional information upon the Administration of Justice, Gaols and Prisoners, the Poor Laws, and the Poorhouse, I would respectfully refer to my Despatch,

No. 69, 25th June 1866.

His Excellency Sir B. C. C. Pine, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. R. LONGDEN,
Lieutenant-Governor.

MAURITIUS. No. 18.

MAURITIUS.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(Separate.)
SIR,
Mauritius, July 26, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of Mauritius for the year 1865, and to accompany it, in accordance with Her Majesty's Regulations, by a Report exhibiting the past and present state of the Colony and its prospects under the several heads specified.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. No change took place in these, nor is likely to do so, until the railway undertaking becomes sufficiently remunerative to allow of the additional Customs duties, imposed to meet the charges occasioned by it, undergoing revision.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The comparative statements show an increase of 8,663l. in the former, mainly due to the development of traffic on the railways.

4. The increase of Expenditure was far larger, amounting to 65,436l.
5. Instead, therefore, of a surplus of 35,788l., as in the previous year, there was a

deficit of 20,985l., the comparison standing :-

Revenue - - £638,067 £646,730 Expenditure - 602,279 667,715

6. The contrast between the financial results of the two periods would be, however, much less striking if the accounts embraced only the actual transactions of each; moreover, even the apparent deficit of 20,985l. in 1865 was reduced to 16,900l. in the returns published in the Gazette, a transfer from railway working account to railway construction account having received the sanction of the Legislative Council too late to be included on 31st December 1865.

7. The various causes which led to this excess of outlay having been already fully explained to you, it is unnecessary for me to enter here into any detailed analysis of the table of actual and estimated Expenditure; but I may recapitulate, as the principal unforeseen items, the addition of 13,000*l*. to the military contribution, of 12,392*l*. for repairs to roads and bridges damaged by the inundation of February, and of 12,084*l*. under the head of immigration expenses, and of 21,035*l*. under that of civil commissariat, occasioned by the unusually large influx of immigrants arising from a famine in Bengal.

8. Notwithstanding these contingencies, however, (the last a source of eventual increase of production and wealth,) and the deduction in consequence of some 20,000*l*. from the "Accumulated Balances" of former years, the finances of the Colony are in a sound state, the Treasurer's balance at the close of the year amounting to about 125,000*l*., whilst the statement of assets and liabilities proves this to be no mere fictitious credit,—the books of the Colony, on the whole, showing a margin in its favour of nearly 210,000*l*.

Local Revenues.

9. The financial affairs of the city of Port Louis continue, I am sorry to say, in a far from prosperous state, the municipality also having had its trials through the effects of the inundation of February.

10. The Revenue, estimated at 64,240l., turned out only 43,630l., whilst the Expenditure, in lieu of 56,900l., was 58,750l. The latter was no doubt swollen by the outstanding liabilities of previous years; but, unfortunately, this has usually been the case, and as long as loans are had recourse to to meet the deficiencies of the day it seems hopeless to expect improvement.

11. The credit of the Corporation, as I anticipated last year, did not stand high enough to enable it to carry out the operation contemplated for the conversion of the whole of its liabilities into a new and uniform debt of 100,000l. It succeeded only in disposing of 28,000l. worth of nine per cent. debentures at a small premium, but this was sufficient to enable it to redeem debentures for 5,520l. of a former issue falling due; to reduce the amount of claims of its servants and tradesmen in arrear; and, I am delighted to add, to square its account with the Local Government by the payment of nearly 6,000l.

12. The municipal budget for 1866 sanctioned an expenditure of 50,700l., and reckoned on the revenue exceeding this by 2,300l.; but it is now confessed that these calculations were much too sanguine, and a further emission of debentures has been authorized to cover pressing demands, including 11,240l. old debentures falling due.

13. The redeeming features in the matter are, that public attention is keenly alive to what is admitted on all hands to be a most unsatisfactory and discreditable state of things, and that the changes which took place at the last municipal elections enabled me to confer the mayoralty on a former deputy mayor, who, though not originally belonging to the movement party, is a gentleman of great ability and experience in the affairs of the town, in which he possesses considerable property.

14. I esteem it fortunate, likewise, that the pecuniary relations between the Government and the municipality have, as already stated, been restored to a sound footing, and that the quay dues, leviable on goods landed in the port, have been at length resumed by the Government in exchange for a commuted payment of 9,000*l*. per annum to the town.

Military Expenditure.

15. The augmented contribution from the Colony of 45,000*l*. figures for the first time at credit of this account, whilst the aggregate disbursements exhibit a diminution of over 10,000*l*. as compared with last year's, amounting in the gross to 126,173*l*.

Civil Establishments.

16. No change of importance occurred, except the necessary additions to the railway working staff.

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Public Works.

17. No new ones of importance were in progress, except the General Post Office, which was commenced towards the end of the year. The Penitentiary gets on very slowly, less than 1,700l. having yet been spent out of 3,600l. estimated.

Railways.

18. This momentous, enterprise which has so severely taxed the resources of the Colony, is approaching completion. The payments to the contractors during the year were a little over 200,000l., bringing the aggregate to close upon a million, exclusive of the cost of land and outlay for management, which together will amount to 300,000l. more, making a grand total of 1,300,000l.

19. The second or Midland line was opened for passenger traffic early in October, but although the crop was only half over no sugar could be carried, owing to the deficiencies of locomotive power for working the steep and slippery inclines; the eight engines supplied under the contract being found incapable even of drawing the requisite number

20. As more than a year must elapse before this deficiency can be remedied by the importation of six additional locomotives of more powerful construction from England, the consequences of this engineering miscalculation will be very serious in a pecuniary point of view, in spite of the efforts now making by the working department to carry one or two goods waggons with each passenger train, so as to diminish the loss, as far as possible, during the present crop.

21. It is satisfactory to be able to add that the passenger traffic on this line has, from the first, exceeded the original estimate of Mr. Longridge, and that, though more expensive to work than the Northern, where the gradients are much less unfavourable,

it promises to prove eventually the most remunerative line of the two.

22. The works at the central terminus have been greatly retarded by a change in the site of the passenger house and carriage shed, prompted in part by experience gained in the inundation of February, partly by the expediency of reselling some very valuable land which had been taken for the purpose, it appearing necessary to do so in order to

keep the expenditure within the limits originally authorized.

23. If this can be successfully accomplished, and the traffic on the existing trunk lines so far developed as to yield a net interest of three or four per cent. on the capital invested, which I have little doubt it will do so soon as an adequate supply of rolling stock has been procured, it will probably be sound policy to commence the construction of the branches, or more properly "feeders," which formed part of the original scheme, and which may necessitate an outlay of from 200,000l. to 300,000l. more.

Public Debt.

24. This outlay should be spread over such a space of time as never to raise the indebtedness of the Colony much beyond the million sterling at which it was, on the

first adoption of the railway undertaking, agreed to fix it.

25. Up to the end of 1865 debentures for 900,000*l*. had been issued, but of these about 150,000*l*. were held by the Colonial Government for the savings banks and the Commissioners of Currency, whilst a sinking fund of nearly 50,000l. consols had accumulated from annual investments at the rate of 18,000l. The remaining 100,000l. has since been negotiated.

Imports and Exports.

26. As in 1864, and from the same cause, the shortness of the sugar crop, the Imports of 1865 exhibit a slight falling off as compared with the year immediately

27. They stand at the same time in far more favourable relation to the Exports, which, as valued in the Custom House returns, indicate a balance of trade in favour of the

Colony (discarding specie on both sides) amounting to 666,000l.
28. This is probably below the mark, for the "Commercial Gazette" gives the value

of sugar exported in the year nearly 200,000l. higher than the official valuation.

29. The following table, extended from my preceding Blue Book Despatches, will serve to show that, despite indifferent crops and low prices, the general commerce of the Island is very steady:

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IMPORTS, EXCLUDING SPECIE. 1862. 1863. 1864. 1865. £ £ £ £ 1,926,255 2,238,846 2,137,107 1,962,800 EXPORTS. £ £ 2,410,325 2,661,079 2,249,740 2,629,519 SUGAR EXPORTED. Lbs. Lbs. Lbs. Lbs. 268,162,551 274,548,961 233,440,100 270,026,937 VALUE OF SUGAR EXPORTED. £ £ £ 2,232,249 2,494,556 2,121,385 2,626,225

30. The Imports thus average over two millions sterling, the Exports two millions and a half, and the quantity of sugar shipped above one hundred and fifteen thousand tons.

31. It must be borne in mind, however, that the export of the year does not correctly represent its crop, which is begun in July and not all shipped till far into the succeeding year, so that although the average annual shipment may be maintained, it consists of portions of the produce of two seasons.

32. For example, the crop of July 1865-66 was nearly 10,000 tons below that of July 1864-65, though the export of 1865 figures in the above table as nearly 20,000

tons larger than that of 1864.

33. The results of the year may thus be very disastrous to the planter, though the Blue Book statistics indicate the contrary, and trade may not suffer till long afterwards.

34. The destination of the sugar exported was nearly the same as in the previous year, half of it going to Great Britain, a fourth to Australia, and nearly an eighth to India,-Bombay, strange to say, being, next to Melbourne, the best market for the fine qualities of sugar, excluded by the British tariff.

35. India, as usual, furnished the largest share of Imports, though not in the same

ratio as in 1864.

Shipping.

36. The amount of tonnage, both inwards and outwards, was much larger than in 1864, but nearly the same as in 1863, viz., just over 300,000 tons; considerably more than the ordinary proportion of two thirds was under the British flag.

Immigration.

37. The unusually large influx of immigrants from Bengal, and the occasion of it, have been already alluded to. From the Protector's report it will be seen that 15,800 arrived from Calcutta alone, or double the total immigration of the previous year, whilst the three Presidencies together supplied 20,283 souls. Of these, 14,910 were males and 5,373 females, the latter being in the proportion of 36 per cent.

38. Owing to the prevalence of cholera and bilious remittent fever at Calcutta and Bombay, and the debilitated state, from previous starvation, of many of those embarking, the mortality on board ship was much higher than in previous years,—a fact which, in India, it has been attempted to turn very unfairly to the discredit of the immigration system; but, in the first place, no change took place in the regulations under which the service was conducted; and in the second, the death-rate of vessels from Madras, where

the general population continued healthy, remained perfectly stationary.

39. So large and sudden an increase on the immigration of preceding years not having been anticipated, and our agent at Calcutta, sooner than turn applicants away, having sent down a large number on Government account, some difficulty was experienced, in the face of the failing crop and falling market, in finding employers, especially as the large proportion of women and children in many ships raised the cost of introduction per male adult to 10l. or 11l. With patience, however, and a few unimportant concessions to the planters, Mr. Beyts succeeded in clearing the depôt fast enough to receive each batch of fresh immigrants on their arrival, or release from quarantine. As

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the bulk of the 56 ships chartered arrived during the last quarter of the year, often two or three almost simultaneously, every available lazaret had to be used, and no ordinary degree of management was requisite to make things work smoothly.

Population.

40. Swelled by the addition of 20,283 souls from abroad, against which must be set off 3,621 who returned to India, the resident population of Mauritius, calculated on the basis of the last census (1861), has now attained the cipher of 340,664.

41. There was, as usual, no natural increase, the deaths exceeding the births by 1,637, a fact which the General Sanitary Inspector considers but partially accounted for by

the disproportion of the sexes.

42. It is, however, satisfactory to learn from his excellent report on the vital statistics of the year, that the birth-rate was rather higher and the death-rate a trifle lower than in 1864, a satisfaction diminished by finding that the death-rate of Port Louis was not only

maintained but augmented from 43 to 48 per 1,000.

43. This was probably in some degree due to the miasma resulting from the inundation, which left deposits of detritus and filth in many quarters, but the necessity for better drainage and sewerage was thus at the same time incidentally corroborated. commencement in sanitary reform in the rural districts was made during the year by the passing of an Ordinance to improve the hospitals and medical attendance on labourers on sugar estates, and a general measure on the subject is now before a Committee of the Legislature, but within the limits of the municipality it is almost impossible to stir without the cordial co-operation of the civic authorities; and, notwithstanding Dr. Edwards's demonstration that some 2,000 lives might have been last year saved in a town of only 80,000 inhabitants if the death-rate had but been the same as in the adjacent district of Black River, I see little sign of the Mayor and his councillors being as yet roused to active exertion.

Charitable Institutions.

44. This seems the fittest place to refer to the enclosed report from Dr. Beaugeard, the surgeon in charge of the Civil Hospital of Port Louis, which fully confirms the unsatisfactory deductions of the General Sanitary Inspector, the number of patients admitted, as well as the deaths, having been larger than in any preceding year.

45. The comparison with 1864 stands as under:

		1	Admissions.		Deaths.
1864	- *	-	3,254		444
1865	-	-	4,414	,	747

The advance was pretty equally distributed among the three classes into which the

patients are divided—Europeans, Creoles, and Indians.

46. The great increase occurred in miasmatical diseases, and diseases of the digestive system. Dysentery, diarrhœa, and hepatitis were very frequent, and various forms of fever, the bilious remittent type among the Indians passing into an intermittent, attacking all classes—a complaint previously uncommon.

47. Dr. Beaugeard attributes the unusual mortality partly to the effects of the inundation, and partly to the large number of newly imported immigrants, "under-fed during the voyage," as he puts it, but suffering from the effects of under-feeding when embarked, as

already explained.

48. The progress making towards the erection of a new hospital on a better plan and in a healthier situation having formed the subject of a recent Despatch, I need only here state that all that has been suggested by the medical authorities is being in the meantime done to the present buildings, and that, when I went over the wards the other day, I found that great improvements had been made since my last visit.

49. The Lunatic Asylum at Grand River continues as before. A report as to its

inmates is given.

50. The Indian Orphan Asylum at Powder Mills is making satisfactory progress; the new dormitories for girls and boys are finished and occupied, and the school-house will be completed in the present year, and bids fair to prove—thanks to Captain Morrison's taste—one of the handsomest buildings in the Colony.

51. The only other Government establishments are the dispensaries for the poor at

Port Louis and Mahébourg, which are extremely useful.

52. The number of private charities on the list goes on increasing. A "Protestant Benevolent Institution"—chiefly for the orphans of European soldiers and civil servants,

and for the support in old age and sickness of those who have seen better days-has MAURITIUS. been lately added so the similar admirable institutions established in most parts of the Island, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, by the "Sœurs de Charité," and "Filles de Marie."

Ecclesiastical Return.

53. Some additions to the number and improvements in the position of the ministers of religion, received your sanction during the year, and were provided for on the estimates of 1866, but as they did not take effect until its commencement I shall not refer to them in detail now.

Education.

54. The number of pupils at the Royal College continued to increase, standing at 341 in the return transmitted. Six of the senior students proved themselves worthy of their position by passing the matriculation examination of the London University. ference of opinion, however, prevails as to the acquirements of the students generally; and from what was publicly stated by the Anglican and Roman Catholic Bishops at the last distribution of prizes, it would appear that the collegiate rank of the institution is due rather to French custom, which dignifies every school with the title of college, than to the standard of education maintained. An inquiry is now going on on this and other matters connected with the institution.

55. The Inspector of Schools gives an interesting sketch in his annual report of the rise and progress of elementary instruction in Mauritius; and though the first was later, and the second slower, than in most British possessions, the development now taking place must be deemed satisfactory under all the circumstances of the case.

56. It certainly does credit to the untiring exertions and sound judgment of

Mr. Comber Browne, the present occupant of the office.

57. At both Government and Grant-in-aid schools the numbers continue to increase, as shown by the following figures from successive Blue Books :-

						1863.	1864.	1865.
On rolls of	Government Grant-in-aid				-	2,277 2,234	2,646 2,275	3,420 2,821
		Total	-		-	4,511	4,921	6,241

58. Six new Indian schools were opened during the year, making in all 30 specially adapted for that portion of the population. At these there are 1,025 boys and 193 girls, the attendance of the latter being a new and most encouraging feature, considering the difficulties which female education encounters in India itself.

59. Mr. Browne states, indeed, that the desire on the part of immigrants for the education of their children is so great, "that were suitable appliances at hand, schools might be

increased in much more rapid succession."

60. The difficulty of obtaining masters is of course great, but as well-eduated natives are beginning to offer themselves, I propose asking for an additional grant of 1,000l. for Indian schools next year, which, with the aid expected from planters, will suffice to educate nearly as many children, the total expenses for the 1,218 now at school being 1,394l.

Savings Bank.

61. The report for the year is satisfactory, the number of depositors and the amount of deposits increasing, though the accumulation which would otherwise take place is constantly retarded by the withdrawal of the savings of immigrants returning to India, who are generally the most frugal and thrifty of their class.

Gaols and Prisons.

62. Returns as to the gaols of each district are given in the usual form, and a full report on the civil prisons of Port Louis from the Chairman of the Committee of Manage-

ment, Mr. Dickson, is likewise enclosed.
63. The average of prisoners, exclusive of those sent to the Vagrant Depôt, was about 1,500, of whom nearly two fifths, including all the felons, were kept at Port Louis, which

may be taken, therefore, as by far the most important establishment of the whole.

64. These figures show considerable improvement on former years, and it will be seen, further, from the Port Louis report, that there was a decrease of committals as compared

MAURITIUS. with 1864 in every class of prisoners, such decrease amounting to 10 per cent. as regarded the police court, and 22 per cent. and 16 per cent. respectively, as regarded the district Magistrate's and Supreme Courts.

65. This diminution is attributed, and probably with reason, by Mr. Dickson, to the stricter discipline of the prison generally, and more particularly to the discontinuance of the practice of out-door labour for felons, and the substitution of shot drill, as recommended by the Committee of the House of Lords, for other in-door employment.

66. The sanitary state of the prison was satisfactory, in spite of the unhealthiness of the town, and the remarks of the chief medical officer on the return of diseases in the district gaols-which will be found among the miscellaneous papers at the end of the Blue Book—show that in them also the mortality was smaller than usual. The result, indeed, confirms the fact, which Dr. Currie states as the result of personal inspection, that the medical duties in the several prison hospitals are regularly and efficiently discharged.

67. The Vagrant Depôt continues to work successfully, as will be seen from the report of the Acting Inspector-General of Police, Colonel Macdonald. The apparent decrease of committals was only 122, but in those from the Port Louis district it was upwards of 1,200, showing that vagrancy in and about the town, and I need hardly add concomitant crime, has met with a very decided check. The number of inmates is kept up by transfers from the district gaols, including almost all offenders sentenced by the stipendiary magistrates. Moral contamination is thus avoided, and far more efficient labour exacted than in the old gaol gangs.

Crime.

68. The accompanying report from Mr. Dickson, as Procureur Général, on this head, cannot be deemed satisfactory, although it discloses some encouraging features.

69. The total of cases tried before the Supreme Court was 66, as compared with 72 in 1864, and of persons 135, as compared with 196. This diminution occurred chiefly in

the favourite Indian crime of gang-robbery.

70. On the other hand, though the number of crimes of violence was rather below the average, the falling off is in the classes of "manslaughter" and "wounding," the "murders" and "attempts at murder" being more numerous than in any of the preceding years, rising from 10 committed by 13 prisoners in 1864 to 14 committed by 33

71. This great disproportion, however, in the number of prisoners arose partly, as explained by the Procureur Général, from the conviction of 13 Indians for the murder of

their master.

72. It would be erroneous indeed to assume from the return of prisoners tried that the disposition to murder was more strongly developed among this class of the population than in former years, since, as Mr. Dickson remarks further on, a large proportion of crimes of this description commonly escape detection; and although, therefore, there were 14 cases of deaths during 1865 believed to have been the result of foul play,-this would only bring the total murders up to 28, against 31, which I stated in my Blue Book Despatch of last year to have been the average of suspected cases for the previous five years.

73. This is a terrible state of things, nevertheless, in so small a community, and the desirableness of applying some more speedy remedy than can be anticipated from the equalization of the sexes, or the spread of true religion and education, becomes year

after year more urgent.

74. The law was allowed to take its course in 10 instances when capital sentence was passed, four of them forming part of the band who, as already mentioned, murdered

their master, it being expedient to make a severe example in such a case.

75. The Procureur Général points out that, from the peculiar superstitions of Buddhism the mode of execution adopted, viz., hanging, is not one which inspires much terror in the Hindoo mind, and suggests that if the former practice of decapitation, which was only discontinued in this Colony in 1851, were restored, capital punishment would be much more effectual in deterring from crime.

76. I have ascertained that this opinion is shared by the judges; it is also advocated by the press; and, though I am loth to depart from English customs when once introduced, I am disposed to think that there is a good deal in the suggestion, and that if the Supreme Court were invested with discretionary power to order the use of the guillotine,

the crime of murder would be less rife.

77. There are many even here who believe, on the other hand, that if death punishment were altogether abolished fewer murders would be committed; but however true this may be in civilized countries among educated people, a long and painful experience MAURITIUS. amidst semi-barbarous races has led me, I regret to say, to form a very opposite conclusion.

Legislation.

78. The very heavy calendar at every assizes necessarily occupies much of the Procureur Général's time, and considerably retards progress both in framing and in carrying through Ordinances.

79. Thirty-two were, however, passed, and several important subjects dealt with, as

will be seen from Mr. Dickson's report.

80. Several of these have been alluded to in the course of this Despatch; for instance, the quay dues, estates, hospitals, &c. I would refer further to his description of the legislation which took place in regard to the savings banks, the sinking fund of the railway loan, the regulations of "job contractors," a new form of the objectionable Sirdar system, and last, but not least, the continuance in force of the law authorizing five years' engagements of Indian immigrants, the keystone of the prosperity of the Colony.

General Remarks.

81. That prosperity is, it need scarcely be said, subject, as everywhere else, to some

alloy.

82. After alluding last year to the deficient yield of sugar, its reduced price, and other disappointments which had befallen the planters, I ventured to conclude with a hope that when the Blue Book of 1865 was forwarded I should be able to report a more flourishing state of things.

83. I regret that this hope is scantly realized. The crop, which at that time was estimated at 140,000 tons-affected first by the inundation of February, and then by the

drought which succeeded it-turned out but little over 120,000.

84. Although a third unfavourable season in succession, combined with low prices, presented serious difficulties to the planting interest, such a reduction as the above would not of itself have sufficed to turn the scale, or produce the disastrous consequences which ensued, had it not been that its effects were intensified by the state of things in India, which affected this Colony in two very opposite ways, each tending materially to hasten the numerous failures which occurred towards the close of the year.

85. The hurricanes and inundations which happened both in the Madras and Bengal Presidencies were attended with such destruction of the grain crops that prices rose

rapidly, and exportation to other countries greatly declined.

86. As the annual consumption of imported rice in this Island, not to speak of dholl, grain, &c. &c., is but little short of a million bags of 164 lbs. each, a rise of some two dollars a bag was extremely serious, and the expenses of the planters, who have to provide

food for the labourers on their estates, were largely increased.

87. Simultaneously with this rise multitudes were driven by the pressure of want to emigrate from India to Mauritius, as already described, and the planters, who, from the slowness with which their requisitions for labour had of late years been complied with, had acquired the habit of applying for twice as many hands as they really wanted, found themselves unexpectedly called to defray the cost of introducing, as well as of supporting, a large number of additional people.

88. The prospective advantage of this extra supply of labour was so evident, that the earlier arrivals were hailed with acclamation; and even when ship after ship continued to pour in from Calcutta during the last quarter of the year, every effort was made by those in whose names the immigrants had been engaged to provide the necessary funds to pay for their introduction, but as this must have amounted in the aggregate to nearly a million of dollars, the strain on the resources of planters already struggling against the drawbacks previously enumerated may be conceived, and it will easily be understood that the credit of many of them did not eventually prove equal to the exertion.

89. These causes, combined with a want of confidence in the future on the part of capitalists, prompted apparently by a growing conviction that the cultivation of beet root in Europe is spreading to an extent which must prevent the price of cane sugar from ever rising for any lengthened period much above the cost of its production, even in the most favoured localities, led towards the close of 1865 to an agricultural crisis in Mauritius of greater severity than has, I believe, prevailed since that which followed in 1847 the equalization of the duties on foreign and colonial sugar. A large number of proprietors were ruined; many properties changed hands; many others were thrown into

MAURITIUS. sequestration; and it can scarcely be said that reliance on the stability of all who had weathered the storm was fully re-established, when the news of the commercial panic at home came to create fresh alarm and revive forgotten apprehensions.

> 90. Fortunately the season has been most favourable, and the crop now commencing cannot be calculated at less than 150,000 tons. An excellent market for about a third of this quantity is open in Australia, and if the remaining two thirds meet but the present low quotations in England and France, the results will still, on the whole, leave a fair margin of profit.

> 91. I confidently trust, therefore, that the danger is over, and that, as usually happens after a violent commotion of the sort, matters stand upon a sounder footing than they

have done for several years.

92. Still, the ordeal through which the Colony has been passing has naturally awakened serious reflection in the public mind; and a warm discussion has arisen in the local press as to whether the present system of immigration is, or is not, that best suited to promote permanent prosperity.

93. It may not be out of place to consider what the system is, and how it has been

working for all concerned.

94. Immigration to Mauritius from India is sometimes spoken of as if it had been conducted for the last thirty years on uniform principles, but it must be borne in mind, when fairly estimating its results, that it has been subjected to constant changes, and that, distrusted at its commencement by the Imperial and opposed by the Indian Government, it has been alternately permitted, prohibited, regulated, restricted, but never encouraged.

95. Without stopping to enumerate the 20 to 30 Ordinances, and nearly as many Acts of the Governor General in Council, passed for these purposes, together with the Orders in Council, and Proclamations, which preceded or followed them, it may be convenient to review the subject briefly under five principal phases.

96. From 1834 to 1842 it was left to private enterprise to introduce immigrants upon more or less practicable conditions. Thus, when, after a temporary suspension in the issue of permits of introduction, the Indian Government had in 1837 authorized five years' contracts of service where a return passage was guaranteed, the Royal Order in Council of September 1838, limiting all engagements to one year, and requiring these to be made within the Colony, came forth, and, until modified by another in 1842, barred the way effectually, even without the Indian Act in the succeeding year, declaring all emigration unlawful.

97. During the second period, from 1843 to 1851, immigration was under stricter Government surveillance, agents and protectors being appointed in India and Mauritius; but the law still left the service entirely in the hands of private parties, though, in consideration of an extra duty imposed on rum, the cost of introduction, and the whole of the back passage, was defrayed from the Public Treasury. Without this inducement, indeed the risk could not have been undertaken, as contracts, though in 1849 extended

to three years, were still null if made out of the Colony.

98. From 1851 the Local Government undertook to introduce a certain number of immigrants annually, and to allot them to applicants in certain proportions under triennial engagements, and this plan was acted on with various amendments and alterations, including a suspension by the Indian Government in 1856, until the end of the third period in 1857; but the former system of private introduction was allowed to remain in force, and the working of the two simultaneously, aggravated the evils arising from the keenness with which the planters competed for the services of immigrants, as explained in the Despatches of Sir William Stevenson at the time.

99. This competition, indeed, excited so much discord, and led to such disgraceful scenes at the immigration depôt from the self-constituted agency of Sirdars, who were little better than crimps, that, on the urgent representations of that able Governor, immigrants were at length allowed to be engaged in India under contracts of service for three years, subject to an understanding that on the termination of such contracts they were to re-engage with the same employer, or to enter into a fresh contract for two years with some other master, unless they preferred redeeming the remaining portion of their five years' industrial residence by a payment of 11. 12s. per annum to the Colonial

100. A short experience of the operation of this measure proved it to be a step in the right direction, but, as apprehended at the time by Sir William Stevenson, it still left the immigrant exposed to the unsettling and deceptive influence of the crimp, at the break which occurred after the first three years of his industrial residence; and it was not until the close of what may be called the fourth period, in 1862, that the abuses referred to were effectually checked by the authority at length given by Her Majesty's MAURITIUS.

Government to pass engagements in India of five years' duration.

101. Until recently the system established on this basis has given very general satisfaction; but it is now contended in some quarters, that although preferred by wealthy planters it is less advantageous to those who possess no great capital, or work on a small scale, than the former plan, under which immigrants arrived free from special engagement; and, furthermore, that it is really injurious to the interests of the whole body, inasmuch as it prevents wages from regulating themselves from time to time by the price of produce as they would otherwise do.

102. It cannot be denied that this want of elasticity is a disadvantage to the planters in bad times such as they have latterly experienced, though it is modified to a certain degree, particularly in the case of small cultivators, by the large number of old immigrants who have served their time, and who, though disposed, as a matter of course, to demand higher pay than inexperienced hands, have nevertheless no alternative but to

accept the current rate or return to India.

103. Still it may be admitted that under the old system of annual engagements, wages did fluctuate far more rapidly than under the new, the crisis of 1847-8, for example, having brought down their money rate fully a third, whereas that of 1865 has produced no sensible effect, except a temporary fall in the price of old immigrant labour, about

equivalent to the increased value of the rice given as rations.

104. But these disadvantages would prove, as they actually have done, exactly the reverse in a rising instead of a falling sugar market, and they are in any event far more than counterbalanced by the certainty which the capitalist who advances his money, and the planter who expends it, are enabled to feel that they will have labour for the maintenance of their estates and the manufacture of their produce, whether their neighbours are extending cultivation or offering higher terms than would suit the calculations which form the basis of the speculation.

105. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the system of five years' engagements in India is better for the planter than any of those which preceded it, though it may perhaps be susceptible of improvement, by the introduction into future engagements of a provision for the regulation of the rate of wages every six months, by proclamation of the Governor, according to the same scale as that advertised for new immigrants—a minimum, of course,

being fixed, below which they should never under any circumstances fall.

106. Some precaution of this sort appears to me requisite, to guard against the disastrous effects of a great and permanent decline in the value of sugar; but as it would be equally applicable in the event of a rise, and would thus destroy the feeling of certainty to which I have alluded, I am not sure that it would be welcome to the planters, whilst the Government of India would not improbably refuse its assent.

107. Other remedies against the fixity of wages must therefore be sought, and happily

they are not distant.

108. In the first place, the planters, being for the moment adequately supplied with labour, are in a position to make a stand for a lower rate of wages on fresh engagements in India, and may avoid re-engagements with old immigrants here except on reduced terms. Their requisitions, too, for immigrants may very well be kept down for some time to come, the employment of jobbing gangs in many instances dispensed with, and greater economy of labour generally exercised than has of late years been the practice.

109. Secondly, the cost of introducing immigrants from all the presidencies has recently augmented, and ought, as far as practicable, to be reduced. It averaged last year close upon 10*l*. per male adult, and in some vessels exceeded 12*l*. or even 13*l*. So far as this arises from the larger proportion of women embarked in some ships than others, it would, I think, be equitable that the Colony should be made to defray more than the moiety of the expense which it now contributes, for though female immigration is highly conducive to morality, and benefits the public in many ways, it constitutes no addition to the labourers of an estate, yet greatly swells the planters' outlay, especially as the number of children on board is sure to be proportionately large. The charges in India for recruiting, &c. also seem to me to admit of reduction, though I am not aware how far it could be carried without violating the requirements of the new law.

110. Thirdly, total dependence on supplies of food from abroad has proved a hazardous

and expensive policy.

111. It would, moreover, be better farming to plant maize, manioc, &c. &c., in rotation with the sugar cane, or even between the cane rows, as is done in Barbadoes, than to exhaust the soil by the perpetual repetition of the same crop.

112. Repeated warnings on this point had failed to overcome the desire for immediate gain, but recent experience seems to have produced a reaction, the question having been

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taken up by the Chamber of Agriculture, and a considerable breadth of land planted with farinaceous food.

113. With the improvements thus indicated, I see no reason why sugar production should not continue profitable—despite low prices—in this highly favoured Isle, where the average yield per acre exceeds that of the virgin alluvial lands of Guiana and Trinidad, or even of Cuba.

114. Cases of individual failure must of necessity occur, where the pecuniary position of planters is so various, and so many undertake the cultivation of their estates with borrowed capital; the ordinary practice being for only a small portion of the price to be

paid down, and the remainder to be left on mortgage.

115. In favourable seasons all goes well, but if crops fail, and the sugar market is unremunerative, the purchaser becomes incapable of supporting the enormous charges to which he is subject; the mortgage is foreclosed, and the estate once more passes into other hands. But these changes in the nominal proprietorship can hardly be said to affect the general prosperity, so long as the mortgagees are satisfied, and the cultivation duly kept up, and I have already shown that they are consistent with a steady increase in the trade of the Colony.

116. As regards the immigrants themselves, there can be no question that the present system answers the expectations that were formed of it, and works in all respects

satisfactorily.

117. They know the exact terms of their engagement before leaving India; they are exposed to no deception on their arrival here; they are at once supplied with all that is requisite for their health and comfort on the estate for which they were engaged, and by the time their contract expires they have become acclimatized, have generally saved a considerable sum of money, learnt the Creole dialect, and acquired a certain amount of knowledge of the laws and institutions of the country.

118. As old immigrants, they enjoy perfect liberty either to work on any estate they please, at the best wages they can get, or to purchase land for garden cultivation, or open shops, as many of them prefer doing. Upwards of sixty thousand, however, as will be seen from the Protector's report, re-engaged themselves during last year for periods varying from three months to five years, of whom, as nearly as possible, one half entered

into written contracts of service with their original employers.

119. Since the conclusion of last crop, immigration in its social bearings has had to stand a severe test, owing to the agricultural distress and high price of food already alluded to. Some proprietors could neither pay what was due to the labourers whose contracts happened to expire, nor afford to re-engage them on any terms. Others succumbed to their difficulties, leaving their properties under sequestration, and their labourers to recover their wages in course of law; but in no case, I am happy to say, was the slightest ill-feeling exhibited the immigrants on the whole behaving admirably, sometimes accepting lower wages, at others begging permission merely to remain on the estate and occupy their houses though unemployed. It is within my knowledge that, in a district not very distant from my residence, more than 1,200 men thus quietly awaited the commencement of the new crop, and the return of better times.

120. Such details, whilst showing the excellent understanding which exists between immigrants and planters, give perhaps no very flattering picture of the prosperity of the former; but it is only necessary to look at the Indian villages springing up in every direction, at the women bedecked with jewels, and the men in smart attire, or to consult the report of the savings banks, to be sure that, as a class, they are contented and

thriving.

121. It remains to inquire what have been the effects of immigration upon the fortunes of the emancipated slaves and their descendants, a subject on which the gloomiest apprehensions were entertained by the friends and well-wishers of the African

122. These slaves numbered upwards of 63,000 at the commencement of the apprenticeship, in addition to the free Blacks and Euro-Africans who constituted the great bulk of the general population, consisting of about 30,000 more. By the close of the apprenticeship in 1838 they were reduced to 53,000, without apparently any

corresponding augmentation in the other classes.

123. From whatever cause—whether the greater severity of slavery, as pretended by some, the more uncivilized state of the slaves, as asserted by others, or the feeble endeavours made by the planters to retain their services, owing to the proximity of India, with its countless millions, as is perhaps not improbable—there can be no doubt of the fact, that the ex-apprentices withdrew from cane cultivation more suddenly and entirely in Mauritius than in any of the West Indian Colonies.

124. The most authentic record of their position after the first few years of freedom, MAURITIUS. is to be found in Sir William Gomm's reply of 7th January 1846 to a circular of inquiry

from the Colonial Office.

125. The account given in that Despatch and its enclosures, as remarked by Mr. Secretary Gladstone, was far from being satisfactory; the whole of the field labourers had left the estates to reside on patches of ground in the mountains, where they raised just enough vegetables for their own subsistence; some few still worked occasionally during crop time, and a certain number of the old headmen, as tradesmen, carters, &c., pursued, irregularly, their former avocations, but neither tradesmen nor domestic servants were generally to be found, and as there were then no Indians of the former class, and but few of the latter, this inconvenience was loudly complained of.

126. With the exception of the Mico schools, the parliamentary grant for which was on the eve of being withdrawn, and a few others chiefly in Port Louis, no provision had been made for education, nor had any efforts been made (with one solitary excep-

tion) for the religious instruction of the ex-apprentices.

127. The picture drawn of their moral and intellectual condition was, as might be expected from this, of the darkest, Sir William Gomm pronouncing them, even in physical organization, inferior to the negroes of Jamaica (from which Colony he had lately come), and ascribing to "the universal headlong rush into intemperance," as well as to the destructive progress of smallpox and other epidemics, a reduction of their numbers to below 40,000!

128. Had the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the Island not, in the meantime, been maintained and expanded by the introduction of Indian immigrants, and the colonial revenue in consequence improved in a corresponding degree, as will be more particularly shown hereafter, nothing could have been done to arrest these fearful evils, and the ex-apprentices and their descendants, decimated again and again by disease,

must have rapidly sunk into hopeless barbarism.

129. With four fifths of its sugar plantations abandoned, and the remaining fifth doing so badly as to enable the owners to offer but low and irregularly paid wages, it is difficult in Jamaica to raise the taxation necessary for supporting the machinery of Government and preserving civilization, and that magnificent Island seems likely to become a helpless incumbrance to the mother country, instead of, like Mauritius, one of the most flourishing Colonies of the British Crown.

130. What has been accomplished in the latter during the last 20 years through the

aid of superabundant financial resources is indeed surprising.

131. Liberal support has been accorded for the building of churches and chapels, and for the stipends of ministers of all religious denominations; Government schools, or schools receiving grants-in-aid, almost universally established; quarantine and internal sanitary regulations adopted, which have diminished the chance of epidemics, and rendered vaccination so general as to make smallpox no longer formidable; an admirable police force organized; trained lawyers holding bi-weekly civil and criminal courts in every one of the eight districts of the Island, besides stipendiary magistrates in each to watch over the relations of masters and servants,—these are but a few of the blessings which have been thus secured.

132. It has been urged, however, that though the emancipated negroes might, in common with the rest of the conmunity, derive advantage from the increase of material prosperity due to immigration, that advantage would be dearly purchased at the expense of the moral contamination certain to follow the introduction of large masses of vicious

and degraded heathens!

133. I may observe in passing, that as far as religious instruction and education are concerned the Creoles of Mauritius, especially those of African or Euro-African descent, have not simply participated in, but up to a very recent period derived the exclusive benefit of the funds expended. Three years ago there was not such a thing as an Indian school, and it is only within the last few months that the first contribution (1,000l.) has been made by the State in aid of the missionary operations carried on in the different languages of India.

134. It is but justice to the Creole population to add that they have not altogether neglected the opportunities of instruction afforded. Many of those of mixed race belonging to the labouring classes, and not a few even of the children of former slaves, have profited thereby to qualify themselves for employment as overseers, clerks, trades-men, artizans, and mechanics, and contrive to hold their own notwithstanding the

competition of those of Indian birth.

135. At one time it was apprehended that there would be a scarcity of good workmen as soon as the old hands trained during slavery died off, but no symptoms of the sort

MAURITIUS. are now manifest, the supply, on the contrary, having proved equal to the large additional demand created by the construction and working of the railways; nor do the younger Creoles prove inferior, for though there is a certain impatience of control, and an indisposition to serve a regular apprenticeship, among them, their aptitude and skill is very remarkable, and has been much commended by the European foremen sent out for the railway workshops.

136. This is no doubt the brightest side of the picture. Immigration, though it has done much, has not worked miracles, and it would be unfair to conceal that a large proportion of the ex-apprentices have never been tempted by high wages or the ambition of raising their children in the social scale to abandon the life of indolent ease

to which they betook themselves and their families after emancipation.

137. The good prices and numerous markets for their vegetables opened in every direction probably induces them to cultivate their provision grounds better than they would otherwise have done, and they are thus useful to a certain extent, though adding little, in proportion to their numbers, to the exportable produce and wealth of the

Colony.

138. But granting this, they certainly manifest no peculiar tendency, either of an original or imitative character, to crime, but live, on the whole, peaceably and inoffen-

139. Crimes of violence are confined almost solely to Indians; and even larcenies and petty thefts are more common among that class of the population than with Creoles. As our criminal statistics do not distinguish nationality, it is not easy to give figures in proof of what is, nevertheless, universally admitted, but I may mention that only one conviction of a Creole for murder has taken place during the three years of my Government, and that crime was committed during a drunken revel at Christmas; while as to general offences it will be seen, on reference to the return on Prisons, that out of 5,144 committals last year to Port Louis Gaol, only 964, or less than a fifth, were Creoles, though they formed at the last census more than half the population of the town, and nearly a third of that of the Island,

140. Finally, in order to exhibit at a glance the progressive effects of immigration on the fortunes of Mauritius, I enclose, in a tabular form, a return, compiled from previous Blue Books, of the Revenue, Export of Sugar, General and Indian Population, in each

of the years from 1833 to 1865 inclusive.

141. The introduction of immigrants does not of course tell on production for some two years afterwards, and allowance must be made for bad crops, seasons of commercial discouragement, and changes of fiscal policy, in judging of the revenue or exports of any particular year; but viewed in connection with the Memorandum which accompanies it, wherein the several phases of the immigration question, already referred to, are described in full detail, the figures will be found to establish the relation of cause and effect in a most remarkable manner.

142. The influx of labour for some years barely sufficed to counterbalance the withdrawal of the ex-apprentices; and the Indian population having fallen below 20,000 at the end of the first 10 years, the minimum exportation of 26,500 tons of sugar, or about 6,000 tons less than under slavery, was reached in 1843. A net addition of nearly 30,000 immigrants in the course of that year, however, brought the export of 1845 up to 42,000 tons, and a moderate flow continuing, that of 1846 rose to 59,000 tons, an average fully maintained during the next five years.

143. In the seven years 1852-58, the Indian males in the Colony increased from seventy to one hundred and twenty thousand, and the exports, in like manner, from

69,000 to 118,000 tons, averaging over 100,000.

144. Contracts in India being at length sanctioned, the male immigrant population rose to 167,000 in the succeeding septennial period 1859-65, the export of sugar averaging 127,000 tons, and attaining a maximum of 137,000.

145. As regards the revenue, commencing at 160,000l. the year before emancipation, it reached 262,000l. by 1842, 321,000l. by 1851, 553,000l. in 1858, and 605,000l. in 1865; fluctuating, of course, during intermediate years, but on the whole gradually and

steadily advancing.

146. Immigration, it will thus be seen, has nearly quadrupled the revenue as well as the population of this Colony; more than quadrupled its productions, and in consequence And though there is room to doubt whether, owing to the heavy outlay its commerce. it has entailed on the planters, and the great concomitant decline in the value of sugar, it has altogether fulfilled the anticipations of its enterprising promoters, it has during the process raised to comparative affluence hundreds of thousands of labourers, who in their native land could never have earned above a precarious subsistence, and has further

incidentally saved the emancipated negroes from retrograding into barbarism, and MAURITIUS. afforded to their descendants a fair prospect of raising themselves in the scale of civilized life, in the midst of an industrious and well-ordered society.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c.

I have, &c., (Signed)

HENRY BARKLY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 18.

Encl. 1 in No. 18.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT of the PROTECTOR of IMMIGRANTS.*

SIR, Immigration Office, 12th February 1866. I have the honour to request that the following annual report on the various matters which concern my department be laid before his Excellency the Governor.

The number of immigrants introduced last year amounted to 20,283 (14,910 males and 5,373 Immigration of 1865. females).

3. The numbers imported during the three previous years were as follows:

Immigration of

three previous

years.

Males. Females. Total. 1862 7,440 2,453 9.883 1863 3,667 1,587 5,254 1864 1,926 5,649 7,575

4. More than three fourths of last year's immigrants came from Calcutta. The contribution of each Work of each of our agencies was as follows:-

of our Indian agencies.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Calcutta		Piles Inc		11,936	3,954	15,890
Madras			-	2,225	1,213	3,438
Bombay	-		-	749	206	955
31 7						

5. The activity displayed by our agent at Calcutta in carrying out the demands addressed to him Efficient workdeserves special notice. No less than 43 emigrant ships were despatched by him in the first 10 months ing of our Calof the year, and before the month of November he had entirely exhausted his list of requisitions. A cutta agency. deficient harvest in some of the rice-producing provinces of Bengal no doubt facilitated his operations to some extent, yet the celerity with which the business of his agency was carried on, and the care which was bestowed upon it, manifestly showed that the interests of this Colony were confided to trustworthy hands.

6. 2,735 immigrants were still due from Madras at the end of the year, and 1,118 from Immigrants Bombay.

7. At the latter port our agency was closed in October last by order of the Local Government, so that inquiries should be made into the causes of the mortality which attended emigration in 1864.

remaining due from Madras and Bombay.

I do not see how the elucidation of those causes can be forwarded by hindering our agency from Stoppage of proceeding with its work. It seems to me that it would have been more consistent, and more conducive to the object in view, to let emigration continue, watching its progress more closely, and subjecting it to such new rules as would be likely to guard it against excessive mortality.

emigration

8. The proportion of females introduced in 1865 was higher than in 1864, though not so high as in 1863:-

> 1863 43.2 per cent. 1864 34.0 99 1865 36.0

Proportion of females in immigration.

9. The number of marriages recognized by arriving immigrants, and confirmed under Ordinance 3 of 1856, during each of the last five years was as follows:-

				Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages to No. of Females introduced.
1861		-		- 1,700	45 per cent.
1862	-		-	- 1,208	10
1863		-		- 1,047	65
1864	-		-	- 922	47
1865		-	200	- 2,108	39

10. The marriages solemnized in the Colony between Indians since 1861 have been as follows:-

Marriages confirmed.

1861 247 1862 173 1863 176 1864 231 1865 213

Marriages solemnized in the Colony.

11. The following numbers of men arrived with two wives each since 1863:-

				1863.	1864.	1865.
From Calcutta	-		- n	5	20	15
" Madras		-		4	0	3
" Bombay	-		-	2	3	0

Men who ar-rived with two or more wives each.

One man arrived last year from Calcutta with three wives, two of whom were sisters.

^{*} The Appendices to this Report are not printed.

MAURITIUS.

Bounties to **Immigrants** who had emigrated before. Mortality at Average rate. Rates compared.

12. The new mode of paying bounties to females which I suggested in my last annual report (paragraphs 19 and 20) has been adopted at Bombay. Our agents at Calcutta and Madras should, I think, be directed to follow the same system.

13. 710 of the immigrants of last year had been in Mauritius before; 34 had gone to Reunion,

9 to the West Indies, and 190 either to the tea districts of India or to Ceylon.

14. The average mortality at sea on board of the 56 immigrant ships which arrived last year amounted to 3·11 per cent., whereas the average ratio of the previous year was no more than 1·4 per cent., and that of 1863 only ·7.

15. The death-rate of each of the three emigration ports has been as follows since 1861:-

			1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Calcutta			2.2	2.6	2.9	-8	3.3
Madras -		 2	•8	•8	•2	•2	•2
Bombay	-		•6	•3	•4	4.7	8.2

16. The increase of mortality in 1865 in immigration from Calcutta and Bombay is in all probability chiefly ascribable to the less healthy state of those two ports in 1865 than during the

previous years.

17. The effects of this cause were perhaps aggravated in immigration from Bombay by the imperfect system which was in practice there with regard to medical examinations: intending emigrants who entered the depôt were not examined on admittance, nor were they kept under constant medical supervision; they were only inspected immediately before embarkation, which was obviously insufficient. The permanent services of a medical inspector have since been engaged by our Bombay agent, in pursuance of his Excellency's orders. I have scarcely any doubt that this step will tend to reduce

mortality in emigrant ships from Bombay.

18. One of the ships of last year, the "Sandringham," was driven ashore on Flat Island, and 19 of her passengers were drowned. The causes of the wreck and circumstances connected with them were fully inquired into by the Marine Board, whose report showed that the captain had given proof of great incapacity and want of energy, and that he had besides culpably doserted his post. His certificate was

therefore suspended for 12 months.

19. Another special inquiry was necessitated in the course of the year. The unusually large number of deaths which had occurred on board of the ship "Schah Jehan" (65) led his Excellency

the Governor to appoint a committee to inquire into the causes of such heavy mortality.

The committee could trace it to no ill-treatment, nor to any misperformance of duty; but they represented that cholera broke out in the vessel almost as soon as she left the Sandheads, and that the vessel had been four days in the Hooghly, a circumstance to which it seemed to them that the cholera was very probably attributable.

The necessity of abridging the stay of emigrant ships in the Hooghly after their departure from Calcutta has long since been recognized; and it is specially provided in the Indian Emigration Act

that every such ship shall proceed to sea at once under tow of a competent steamer.

that every such ship shall proceed to sea at once under tow of a competent steamer.

It would appear that in this case there was no steamer, or that the steamer employed was not a competent one. The Indian Government should, I think, further investigate the case, so as to ascertain what the causes of the delay of the vessel were.

20. The general treatment of the immigrants during the voyage from India was unobjectionable. Very few complaints were made by them on their arrival. In three cases only the charges were proved. The parties charged in the two first cases were the surgeon and assistant surgeon of the ship "Fathe Salam;" they were found guilty of having assaulted several Coolies, and were both fined. The other case was that of the surgeon of the ship "Canning," who was accused of not having issued sufficient quantities of provisions during the voyage. As he had kept no account whatever of the issues, and the evidence of the passengers was unanimous in supporting the charge, a fine of 10% was inflicted upon him. inflicted upon him.

21. These, as well as all the other punishments awarded in the course of the year against surgeons and other officers of immigrant ships, for misperforming or neglecting their duties, are explained in

22. I think it rightly assumable that fewer instances necessitating such punishments will occur when the new medical service which is now being organized for our immigration will be in full activity.

23. Of the four surgeons who have been appointed by the Secretary of State, at his Excellency's request, for permanent employment in our immigrant ships, two have proceeded to Calcutta, and the other two to Madras. When the stream of our immigration, which is now temporarily checked by exceptional circumstances, will have resumed its course, a large medical staff will doubtless be necessary, but for the present the number of surgeons appointed will be sufficient to allow the new system to be initiated.

24. The plan of selecting well-qualified medical officers and keeping them in permanent employment, holding out to them all the advantages and privileges to which officers of the civil service are entitled, will no doubt lead to a more efficient medical supervision on board of immigrant ships than has been obtained by the rule hitherto followed of taking up medical men at hazard, offering them no certainty of continuous employment, nor any promise of re-employment whatever, and no claim to any remuneration beyond a mere capitation fee during their time of service.

25. Of the 56 immigrant ships which arrived last year 17 had to be placed in quarantine—11 on account of cholera, and the others on account of other diseases. No quarantine whatever was necessitated on account of small-pox, which shows that the rules regarding the vaccination of emigrants were carefully carried out in our Indian depôts, and that the measures adopted to protect

the Colony from the introduction of small-pox are well devised.

26. The Depôt Medical Officer's report (placed amongst the appendices which I forward herewith) will show the state of health in which the immigrants of last year generally were when they arrived. The number removed to hospital immediately after arrival amounted to 594; 220 of them were labouring under chronic dysentery and diarrhea, 80 under fever, 55 under general debility, 15 under

Loss of the "Sandringham." Inquiry and result.

Inquiry into mortality on board of the "Schah Jehan."

Treatment at sea.

Punishments awarded against officers of im-migrant ships. New medical service.

Quarantine.

State of health of immigrants on arrival.

eye affections, 12 were afflicted with cedema, 10 with syphilis, 7 with rheumatism, 4 with cardiac MAURITIUS. disease, and the others with other affections.

27. As to the condition in which the generality of the immigrants arrived, the Depôt Medical Officer

reports as follows:

"I was perfectly satisfied with the cleanly and healthy aspect of the generality of those who reached the depôt after their landing at Port Louis, whether they had undergone quarantine or not. With few exceptions they were fit to proceed at once to their respective districts."

28. Appendix F. shows how the immigrants of last year were disposed of, giving the number apportioned to each district of the Colony. This statement represents that 83 immigrants paid for immigrants of their presences on their appropriate and freed themselves from their exceptions that 18 shides as head 1865.

their passages on their arrival, and freed themselves from their engagements; that 13 children who had lost their parents at sea were sent to the Orphan Asylum; and that 262 women and children were allowed to leave the gangs with which they had arrived, and to go and join their friends and

29. 498 men remained undistributed at the end of the year. They, as well as those who arrived since, have all left the depôt. Some difficulty, however, was experienced at first in finding employers for rienced in distance; the very large immigration of the year, added to the discharge from the railway works of a great number of labourers who had not gone through their five years' service,* had reduced the demand at the end of the year.

They, as well as those who arrived since,
Difficulty experienced in discharge from the railway works of a posing of them at the end of the year. to postpone the engagement of new immigrants.

30. Requisitions have therefore fallen off very much. But, if sugar production has to be kept up in the Colony, the planters cannot avoid importing fresh labour every year; the deaths, departures, and withdrawals from agriculture must be made up for by the importation of immigrants from abroad; otherwise the labouring population will necessarily decrease, and probably prove both too dear and insufficient.

Requisitions for introduction of immigrants.

31. The average cost of introduction charged on employers was as follows:-

£ d. S. $18\ 11\frac{1}{2}$ From Calcutta 9 Madras 9 16 9 Bombay $6 \quad 8\frac{1}{4}$

Cost of introduction.

32. The expenses paid by Government on account of immigration were as folllows:

£ s. d. 1. Half-passage of females 11.702 2. Bounties to females 2,234 0 0 3. invalids 199 0 99 0 4. Quarantine Establishment - Services exclusive of establishment 2,611 17 25,115 10 2 †5. Return passages paid in India 7,249 † 6. Agencies { Calcutta Madras Bombay 8,584 19 3,192 15 775 10 10 Total 61,665 2 $6\frac{1}{9}$ Government share of immigration expenses.

33. The departures of 1865 show a slight increase over those of the two previous years:

Departures.

				maies.	remaies.	Total.
1863		-	-	2,553	667	3,220
1864	-		-	2,692	721	3,413
1865		-	-	2,854	767	3,621

34. 733 immigrants were entitled to be sent back at the expense of Government; the others (2,888) Cost of return had to pay for their passages. The cost of the return passage averaged 31. 8s. during the first half-year, passage. and 31.9s. from July to December.

35. The invalids sent back to India at their request and at the cost of Government amounted to the Invalids. following numbers since 1863:-

1863 244 1864 152 1865 221

The infirmities and diseases of those of last year, and other particulars regarding them, will be found in statement (c) annexed to the Depôt Medical Officer's report.

They were, as usual, provided with clothing, and allowed to receive a sum of ten rupees each before

being embarked.
36. The total immigrant population has increased from 230,791 in December 1864 to 245,700 in

37. The proportion of females in the immigrant population at the end of the year was 46.8 per cent.

38. Births in the immigrant population have increased as follows:

Born in				Males.	Females.	Total.	
1861		-		2,967	2,949	5,196	
1862	-		_	3,000	2,963	5,963	
1863		-	_	3,090	3,052	6,142	
1864	-		_	3,246	3,144	6,390	
1865		-	-	3,411	3,344	6,750	

Total immigrant population.

Proportion of females in ditto. Births in ditto.

2,604 new immigrants and 1,298 old immigrants were discharged by the railway contractors in 1865. † Under these heads the expenditure of the last quarter has not been included, no accounts of it having yet been received from India.

18090.

39. The mortality which has occurred in the immigrant population since 1861 is as follows:-

Deaths in
immigrant
population.

Died in				Males.	Females.	Total.
1861		-		4,181	1,456	5,637
1862	-		-	7,023	2,180	9,203
1863			-	6,602	1,946	8,558
1864	-		-	6,466	2,281	8,747
1865		-	-	6,150	2,358	8,508

It is satisfactory to find that, notwithstanding a large increase of population, the annual number of deaths has declined since 1862. The death-rates of the last five years stand thus:-

Ratio of Deaths.

1861	-	-	2.5 per	cent.
1862 -	-	-	4.0	"
1863	- 6 -	-	3.7	,,
1864 -		-	3.7	22
1865	44 man (4)	-	3.4	,,
			0	

Engagements.

40. 88,201 immigrants engaged themselves during the year for various periods of service:-511 for 3 months or less.

7,952 " 6 months. 52,508 ,, 1 year. 3,976 ,, 18 months. 52,508 ,, 8,879 " 2 years. 1,937 ,, 13,438 ,, 4 years. 5 years.

These figures show that the annual engagements formed 59 per cent. of the total number. The contracts for five years were chiefly those of the new immigrants imported during the year.

41. 49,952 engagements were passed with new masters; 38,249 were renewals of contracts under me masters. In 1864 the renewals with same masters amounted to 41,631, and the engagements same masters. with new masters to 40,193.

Classes of labourers engaged.

42. The labourers who were engaged in 1865 belonged to the following classes:-Indian immigrants - { New Old

64,133 188 Other immigrants 1,435 Natives of Mauritius -

Re-engage-ments of old immigrants.

43. The fact that so many old immigrants (72 per cent. of the total number engaged) voluntarily re-entered into contracts of service, instead of leaving the Colony as they were free to do, proves, beyond any doubt, that they held the prospects of further service in the Colony to be preferable to those offered to them by employment in India.

44. It is satisfactory to find that the number of engagements passed with natives of Mauritius has been steadily increasing since 1862. The increases have been as follows:—

Natives of Mauritius engaged as

No. of Creoles engaged. 540

1862 655 1863 1,146 1864 1865 1,435

Rates of wages. Offences committed by immigrants.

45. The average rates of wages at the end of 1865 will be found in Appendix L. 46. The offences proved to have been committed by Indian immigrants during the last two years stand thus:-

		1004.	1000.
			-
1. Refusing to work -	-	592	490
2. Unlawful absences	*	5,531	3,992
3. Desertions -	-	6,040	4,599
4. Maliciously injuring employer's property	-	6	94
5. Insubordination, assault, &c.	-	71	40
6. Using false papers -	-	485	303
7 Other offences	-	396	394

47. This comparative statement is highly satisfactory; it proves unquestionably that the general 47. This comparative statement is highly satisfactory; it proves unquestionably that the general conduct of the immigrant population is improving. Every offence noted in the list, except No. 4, shows a reduction in the number of convictions. In absenteeism and desertion the decreases are specially worthy of notice. I have no hesitation in believing that they are greatly attributable to the salutary effects of the discipline of the Vagrant Depôt established in 1864.

48. The attempts at fraudulent personations through the use of false papers are also decreasing; this is no doubt due to the system which is now being carried out of having photographic portraits affixed to tickets. This measure also has a great influence, I believe, in checking desertions.

49. The complaints proved against employers of immigrants during the last two years are shown to Complaints against masters. be as follows:

		1864.	1865.
		-	-
1. Nonpayment of wages	-	3,743	4,093
2. Non-delivery or imperfect delivery of rations	-	787	69
3. Refusal of medical care	-	30	13
4. Non-delivery of tickets and discharges	-	414	458
4. Non-delivery of trekets and describes	-	205	197
5. Assault and battery		21	207
6. Other charges -			

The increase of cases of nonpayment of wages is due, no doubt, to the partial failure of the last MAURITIUS.

50. The fact that fewer complaints of the classes distinguished by Nos. 2, 3, and 5 were made to General condition of immittee stipendiary magistrates, added to the limited number of departures which I have already pointed tion of immittee to the stipendiary magistrates. out, and strengthened as it is by the information I have gathered from my personal inspections and grants. inquiries, leads me to the belief that, notwithstanding the increase of cases of nonpayment of wages,

the general welfare of the immigrants of the Colony is not retrograding.

51. Their deposits in the Savings Bank at the end of 1864 amounted to 29,728l. The accounts of Deposits in the bank for last year not having been cast up yet, I am unable to state to what extent that Savings Bank. amount has increased.

52. With the view of facilitating the transmission of their savings to India, the rules given in Transmission of Appendix S. have just been adopted, with his Excellency's approval. As the remittances will be money to India. subject to no charge whatever, and liable to no risk, it may be hoped that the measure* will be

largely taken advantage of by immigrants who have money to remit.

53. To provide more fully for the moral and intellectual wants of immigrants, six new schools were Indian schools. opened by Government in the course of the year, which brings the present number of Indian schools up to 30. They are attended by no less than 1,200 children.

54. The Government Orphan Asylum contained the following pupils at the end of the year:-

Orphan Asylum.

					**			Males.	Females.	Total.
Indian immigrants	-	-		-		_	+	77	40	117
Liberated Africans	-		- ,				-	34	8	42
Europeans -	-	-		-		-	-	2		2
Natives of Mauritius	S of	Indian Africar	origin	n	-		-	45	27	72
Tradities of Mauritius	of	Africar	1 ,,			-	-	9	1	10
								167	76	243

The deaths and admissions of the year were as follows:

Deaths and admissions of pupils.

Girls. Total. Died 8 8 16 Admitted -42 26 68

55. Twenty-five pupils were discharged from the institution in October last. The boys were dis- Pupils distributed thus:

3 as teachers of English. 3 as tinsmiths. 6 " masons. 2 ,, basket makers. 4 ,, carpenters. 1 ,, domestic servant. 3 ,, blacksmiths. 3 " gardeners.

The girls were married to Indian artisans and others who were known to the superintendent of the

establishment as men of good character.

56. The progress of this institution, in respect of the tuition in its school, has sustained itself satisprogress of the factorily. In its industrial department the want of competent teachers is very much felt; those who asylum. have hitherto been employed are incapable of imparting anything like a scientific knowledge of their trades. The necessity of enlisting a better class of master tradesmen has not escaped the attention of the directors; but the difficulty of procuring others has hitherto been insuperable.

57. A reformatory has been opened at Grand River, N.W., in the neighbourhood of the Vagrant Reformatories. Depôt, for juvenile offenders. Another one is being established in Pamplemousses. I have no doubt

that these institutions will prove of great utility.

58. Two batches of liberated Africans, consisting of 77 males and 47 females, were imported from Liberated the Seychelles in the course of the year. They arrived in excellent health, which circumstance is Africans. doubtless attributable to their stay at the Seychelles.

Twenty of them (13 boys and 7 girls) who were under nine years of age were sent to the Orphan Asylum. The others, after having been registered and provided with clothing and other requisites, were given out to employers as domestic servants. They were engaged on the same terms as arriving immigrants.

It was found easy to communicate with them, through the boys sent to the asylum in 1861, who are now sufficiently conversant with English to interpret with facility. The expenses entailed on Government by these newly-imported Africans were wholly covered by the fees charged on their employers.

59. The reconstruction of the depôt is now nearly terminated. The accommodation appropriated to Reconstruction arriving immigrants has been very much improved. The remarkably healthy state of the depôt of depôt throughout the year, notwithstanding its having frequently been crowded in consequence of simultaneous arrivals of large numbers of immigrants, proves that the dwellings they were provided with were suitable, as well as that their well-being was attended to in other respects.

60. In the management of the depôt I have been zealously assisted by the chief clerk. His duties Management of were very much increased by my having had to absent myself for long intervals for the purpose of depôt.

were very much increased by my having had to absent myself for long intervals for the purpose of depôt. inspecting the sugar estates.

Of the general demeanour of the other officers of my department I have also to report favourably.

61. The following new laws bearing directly on immigration or immigrants, and on the introduction Newlegislation.

of liberated slaves, were enacted in 1865:—

1. Ordinance No. 5. To enable the Chief Clerk in the Immigration Department to act in the absence of the Protector.

2. Ordinance No. 7. To secure the Rights of new Immigrants under Contracts of Service with Job Contractors, and to extend the Jurisdiction of Stipendiary Magistrates to Claims for Wages founded on Guarantee.

^{*} This measure was suggested by Mr. Marsh.

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3. Ordinance No. 18. To amend the Law regarding Contracts of Service with liberated Slaves landing in Mauritius or Seychelles.

 Ordinance No. 28. To prolong the operation of Ordinance No. 16 of 1862.
 Ordinance No. 29. To amend the Law as to Hospitals and Medical Attendance for Persons under Contracts of Service.

Law relative to job contractors.

62. The law relating to job contractors provides special guarantees for the new immigrants engaged by them, but leaves the old immigrants without such protection. The consequence will doubtless be

that many old immigrants will be defrauded out of their wages.

It is hoped by those who are advocates of this system that the evil will bring about its own remedy, by opening the eyes of old immigrants to the risks to which they expose themselves by engaging themselves to job contractors. That may be; but, meanwhile, the unrestricted facility with which job contractors are allowed to engage labourers who are not new immigrants may inflict considerable

injury both on those labourers and on planters.

63. The number of labourers employed by job contractors at the end of each of the last two years

Labourers employed by job was as follows :contractors.

Old. Total. New. 6,364 6,364 1864 740 5,693 6,433* 1865

Medical attendance on sugar estates.

64. The Ordinance regulating medical attendance on sugar estates will, I think, be productive of great good. It may possibly require some emendations and additions to work out its proposed result; but, even in its present form, I have no doubt that it will improve the position of the immigrants as regards medical care.

Inspection of stipendiary magistrates.

65. The reports of the stipendiary magistrates on their visits of inspection already show the effects of the new system: hospitals have been erected or are being built where there were none; others that were unsuitable have been repaired and refurnished; and surgeons have been engaged to attend regularly on estates where their presence was, if not quite unknown, at least so rare as to be of very little practical utility.

Their halfyearly reports.

The stipendiary magistrates' last half-yearly reports have not all reached me yet. As soon as I 66. The stipendiary magistrates' last half-yearly reports have not all reached me yet. As soon as a shall have received those that are still due I shall submit my remarks upon them, and refer to my

Special Com-

missioners abours.

own inspection of the sugar estates.

67. In reviewing the requirements of my department at the close of my last annual report, I took the liberty of pointing out that the position and management of our agencies at Madras and Bombay required, in my opinion, to be examined into, with the view of placing them on a more efficient footing. The careful inquiries which have been made by the Special Commissioner who is now in India will, I have no noubt, enable his Excellency to judge of the best means of accomplishing the desired result.

Sub-agencies in connection with Madras.

68. One of the measures suggested by me for that purpose was the establishment of two efficient sub-agencies in connection with our agency at Madras. The extensive importation of immigrants last year seems to allow a postponement of that step;† but it is my belief that fresh demands for immigrants will ere long arise, and it appears to me that to be enabled to meet them easily it would be well not to writ till they do come forward but to strongthen our agency at high start of the s not to wait till they do come forward, but to strengthen our agency establishments beforehand, and hold them in readiness to operate with efficiency.

Direct emigra-tion from the sub-agencies.

69. I further recommend that the Indian Government be moved to allow direct emigration from the ports at which the sub-agencies will be established. This would prove more beneficial to the emigrants themselves and less burdensome to their employers than the present system. The ships engaged may

FrenchColonies more favoured than the British by the new Indian emigration law.

be surveyed and prepared at Madras, and sent on to the sub-agents after having been inspected and approved by the Protector of Emigrants.

70. One of the purposes for which the new Indian Emigration Act was passed was stated by the Indian Government to be, "to remove the discrepancies which existed between the system of emigration "to the French Colonies and the system under which emigration took place to the dependencies of the British Empire and certain other localities." (Vide Statement of objects and reasons published in Calcutta Government Gazette of 30th September 1863.)

In some respects the systems have been rendered uniform: first, with regard to the months during

In some respects the systems have been rendered uniform; first, with regard to the months during which emigrant ships may sail for the West Indies; secondly, as regards the space required on board for emigrants; thirdly, as respect the rules governing recruiters, and those which relate to medical

inspections.

But on two essential points greater advantages have been conceded to the French Colonies than to the Dependencies of the British Empire. In the first place, while the British Colonies can only export their emigrants from Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, the French are allowed to export theirs not only from these three ports but from all their own ports besides; next, while the French agents are allowed to be paid by fees, the British Emigration agents are hindered from receiving any remuneration but fixed salaries. (Vide section 12 of Act 13 of 1864.)

As these remaining discrepancies are very important, I submit that it would be greatly to the interest of this Colony to move the Government of India for their removal. An amending Act should, I think, be applied for, still further assimilating the two systems, and providing, for that purpose, first, that the agents of the British Colonies may be paid in the same manner as the agents of the French, i.e., by fees, if it suit their respective Governments so to remunerate them; secondly, that emigration to the British Colonies may take place from any port of British India where any Colonial Government may appoint

by job contractors upon them.

† Notwithstanding the large immigration of last year, there still remain requisitions for 2,700 immigrants from Madras.

† Pondichery, Carrical, Mahé, &c.

^{*} There are some estates from which I have received no returns yet of the number of labourers employed

an agent, provided that there be at such port a collector, magistrate, or other officer of the Indian MAURITIUS.

Government who may be able to perform the duties of a protector.

71. In concluding my last annual report I further took the liberty of representing that a better Mauritius system of administering relief to the poor seemed to me to be wanted in the Colony. I deem it my poor law. duty to revert to this subject. My official duties place me in a position in which I cannot avoid meeting with frequently occurring proofs of the imperfection of the present poor law. A whole week seldom passes without my receiving a complaint either as to the insufficiency of the relief given by a poor relief committee, or as to its totally denying the assistance claimed by a pauper.

The immigration depôt is the receptacle and refuge of all such paupers, the generality of whom, after a short stay there, resign themselves to the alternative of leaving the Colony, with the hope of finding more effectual succour in the charity of their countrymen in India.

A poor law which drives immigrants to this extreme measure is evidently bad enough to require a

fundamental change.

72. I beg to submit herewith the statistical returns usually appended to my annual reports.*

* Not printed.

To the Hon. F. Bedingfeld, Esq., Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. ed) H. N. D. BEYTS, (Signed) Protector of Immigrants.

Enclosure 2 in No. 18.

Encl. 2 in No. 18.

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1865.

The population of Mauritius on the 31st of December 1865 may be estimated at 340,835, being an Population.

increase of 15,024 on that of the previous year, as it was given in my last annual report.

The natural increase of a population arises from an excess of births over deaths; but in Mauritius there has been, for many years past, an excess of deaths. The progressive increase of the Mauritius population is therefore to be attributed to immigration only. The number of immigrants introduced in 1865 was unusually large, viz., 20,283.

In 1861 the number of persons to a square mile was 437, in 1865 it was 480, which gives just one acre and a third to each individual.

The excess of deaths over births cannot be satisfactorily accounted for on the assumption that all the Excess of births are not registered; for, if the estimated population is to be relied upon, the number of births deaths over registered in the books of the civil status gives a remarkably high rate. It is only partially accounted for by the disproportion of the sexes in one class of the community; for we find that whilst the total population of the island has increased 10 per cent. since 1860, from which period there has been a steady and progressive increase in the female element, the births have only increased 14 per cent.,

whilst the deaths have increased 30 per cent.

The total birth-rate was rather higher in 1865 than in the previous year, the death-rate a trifle Birth-rate. lower. Those rates were, respectively, 3.25 and 3.79 in 1864, and 3.26 and 3.74 in 1865. The high Death-rate death-rate of Port Louis, however, was not only maintained, but augmented, from 43 to 48 per 1,000.

The deaths exceeded the births in every district but one; and the exception was, as in former years, In Black River Black River. Port Louisa, as might be expected, presented the highest birth-rate, Pamplemousses, without any accountable reason, the lowest. The death-rate of Port Louis was also the highest, and that of Black River the lowest. The districts which showed the greatest excess of deaths over births were Port Louis and Plaines Wilhems, and the death-rate of the latter was the highest of all the rural districts, as it was in 1864. Moka manifested the greatest improvement, the number of deaths in that district having been 137 less than it was in 1864.

If the death-rate of the whole Island had not exceeded that of Black River, there would have been a saving of 4,049 lives. Excluding Port Louis from the calculation, the saving would have been 2,215. A certain portion of the registered mortality may, therefore, be regarded as unnatural and

excessive, and is represented by the figures given above.

The estimated population of each district, upon which the above calculations are based, can only be regarded as approximative; but judging from the general uniformity of the birth-rate, it cannot be far

The Table of sickness and mortality was compiled from monthly returns furnished by the several Local Boards of Health (rural), and in the case of Port Louis from the books of the Civil Status Office. It will be found not to correspond exactly with the official returns made by the officer of that department, whose figures, as probably more correct, have therefore been taken in calculating the total birth and death rates. The discrepancies are unimportant, except in the case of Port Louis, where a difference of 49 in the number of deaths will be observed. That difference arises from an elimination from the total mortality of a certain number of deaths which, although registered in 1865, occurred in previous years. Allowing for those deductions, the true death-rate of Port Louis would be 4.78.

It will be seen that upwards of 40 per cent. of the total mortality of the Island resulted from Proportion of fever,—fever which, in the opinion of most medical men, is a preventible disease. The highest prodeaths from portion of deaths from fever to total mortality, in any district, occurred at Grand Port, viz. 63 per fever; cent.; the lowest at Black River, viz., 31 per cent. This is exclusive of Port Louis, which is lower than it was in 1864, but still very high, when the character of the population is considered. In Port Louis, also it should be remembered that medical the properties of the population is considered. of the population is considered. In Port Louis, also, it should be remembered that medical treatment is more general than in the country; the nature of disease is more accurately defined; and probably, medical certificates of the cause of death are occasionally given by private practitioners, but, not being required by law, they are withheld in the great majority of cases. With few exceptions,

MAURITIUS.

from diarrhea and diseases of respiratory organs.

therefore, it is only from the hospitals and other public institutions that reliable certificates of the cause of death are received at the Registration Office.

Deaths from diarrhœa and dysentery formed 12 per cent., and diseases of the respiratory organs

13 per cent. of the total mortality.

Fever prevailed very generally throughout the year, but proved most fatal in the first six months. The greatest monthly mortality from that cause occurred in April, and the lowest in November. Deaths from intestinal affections were most numerous in October; and from diseases of the respiratory organs in August. The greatest mortality from fever, relatively to population, occurred at Grand Port; next came Plaines Wilhems, Flacq, Moka, Port Louis, Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart, Savanne, and Black River, in the order given. The greatest mortality from diarrhea and dysentery occurred at Savanne, and then in the following order—Moka, Port Louis, Rivière du Rempart, Flacq,

Plaines Wilhems, Pamplemousses, Grand Port, and Black River.

An abstract of meteorological observations taken during the year will be found in the Appendix.*

It presents nothing remarkable in relation to the public health, except that fever will be found to have predominated in the hot months, diseases of the respiratory organs in the cold, and that diarrheea and dysentery proved most fatal in the dryest months, when the rivers are of course lowest, and the water least pure. The ozone observations were only taken in the last six months of the year, and only at one place, and that, from its situation, an objectionable one; so that no deductions of any value

can be drawn from the results.

The barometer stood highest on the 30th June (30.400 inches) and lowest on the 12th February, the date of the inundation, viz. 29.511, the extreme range for the year being 0.889 inches. The highest temperature was 90°0, on the 4th February, and the lowest 67°6, on the 10th July, which gives for the year a range of 22°4. The total rainfall for the year at the Observatory (in one of the dryest parts of the Colony) was 44.737 inches; and the greatest fall in 24 hours was 7.460 inches, on the 12th February.

WATERS OF MAURITIUS.

During the past year Professor Guthrie has made a careful analysis of most of the river waters of Mauritius, and has established the fact of their general softness and purity. "We find" (writes "Dr. Guthrie) "that the waters of Mauritius are eminently soft. The proportion of mineral constituents is remarkably small. The quantity of organic matter is great compared with that of the mineral matter, but absolutely it is also inconsiderable in most cases; almost all the waters are,

in short, very pure.

"It is striking how considerably and constantly purer the rivers in the southern part of the Island are than towards the North. It is possible that this is owing to the greater number of rivers in the South, and possibly, also, to the fact, that the northern rivers, as a rule, pass through a more highly cultivated country than is traversed by the southern rivers."

In the reverse described the condition of many of the rivers during the day season and

In my last annual report I described the condition of many of the rivers during the dry season, and represented how unfit such water must be for drinking purposes, and how prejudicial to the health of those who use it; yet many Indian camps on estates are still dependent for their supply on such rivers alone. Wells have been sunk on many properties, and an ample supply of pure water obtained, to the great advantage of the Indians as regards their health and comfort. Whenever the supply of water is irregular or deficient, or of bad quality, proprietors should be encouraged to sink wells when practicable,

and when not so to construct filters.

As regards the water supply to Port Louis, it is abundant, but most irregular in its distribution, as I As regards the water supply to Port Louis, it is abundant, but most irregular in its distribution, as I have had occasion to observe before. I have said that not only every part of the town but every house in the town should have its supply, and yet, according to a return furnished by the mayor of the number of persons who have acquired the privilege of a "prise d'eau," I find that probably not more than 1,500 or 1,600 out of perhaps 8,000 houses are so supplied. The great bulk of the inhabitants of the town are dependent on the public fountains, of which there are only 75 instead of 100, as was intended. Water is the first necessary of life, and it is the duty of Local Boards of Health to place it

within easy reach of all.

Dr. Guthrie's analysis of the water supplied to the town will be found in the Appendix.* Dr. Guthrie's analysis of the water supplied to the town will be found in the Appendix.* It establishes, first, that the water of the Municipal Canal (constructed of iron) is the purest; it is, in fact, purer when it reaches and has circulated through the town than at its source, having parted with a portion of its organic matter and mineral residue, and acquired a mere trace only of iron, in addition. The water of the Dayot' Canal (constructed in masonry) is less pure when it reaches the town than at its source; it is harder, it contains a larger proportion of organic and mineral ingredients, and, what is of more consequence, the proportion of those ingredients steadily increases as the water passes through the canal, until, at Cassis, the quantity of each is doubled. "This" (Dr. Guthrie remarks) "is clearly "to be attributed to the free ingress, by percolation, of the drainage of the streets; the organic matter being derived from sewage, and the carbonate of lime from the mortar of the masonry with which the "canal is built." canal is built."

He goes on to say, "This point is the more worthy of notice since the introduction of gas into the "Colony. However well gas pipes may be laid, a large per-centage of gas inevitably escapes into the earth; the joints of the pipes are started by the passage of heavy vehicles, especially when they are laid so remarkably near the surface as in the case in point. The gas which thus escapes and saturates the earth must infallibly find its way into a canal which is built of masonry, and although " there may be nothing actually poisonous in coal gas, yet it will certainly impart its repulsive taste

The water of the Bathurst Canal (also built of masonry) is the least pure of the three; it contains far more organic matter, which, as Dr. Guthrie observes, may account for its "presumed unwholesomeness."

Meteorology.

Rivers of the South purer than those of the North.

Water supply, Port Louis

* Not printed. Municipal Canal.

The Dayot

The Bathurst

"Reposing with little motion in the rich alluvial and highly cultivated district of Pamplemousses, MAURITIUS. " the abundant vegetable matter which the water carries down is very imperfectly oxidized. If I am " rightly informed, vegetable matter in large quantity, in water, has precisely the injurious action on "the bowels (with whatever justice may be) to the water of this canal. No mechanical filtration can remove the dissolved vegetable impurities from such a water; but it is removed by filtration through

charcoal, and rendered innocuous by boiling."

Dr. Guthrie compares this water with that supplied to London in 1854 from the Thames, by five public companies. Those several waters contained respectively of organic matter, per gallon, 1.39, 1.92, 2.08, 3.56, 5.41 grs.; and he comes to the conclusion, that the quantity of organic matter in the Bathurst Canal, 3.55, is "not outrageously large." It may, however, be observed, that it was the known impurity of those waters which gave rise to the inquiry, and that the worst were condemned by the Commission. The above facts clearly indicate the superiority of iron canals over those of masonry, and also that much of the advantage of a filtre at the mouth of the Bathurst Canal (which has been proposed) would be lost, from the subsequent deterioration of the water in its passage through the canal.

Let us hope that in course of time the Municipal Canal may be extended to every part of the town. Let us nope that in course of time the Municipal Canal may be extended to every part of the town. The water of the Dayot and Bathurst Canals might then be used for flushing the sewers—when they Public founare made. Of the 75 public fountains in the town 36 are supplied by the Municipal Canal, 26 by the tains. Dayot, and 13 by the Bathurst Canal. The number of grantees of shares of water is 1,522; viz., from Number of the Municipal Canal, 520; Dayot, 295; Bathurst, 707. The number of streets and localities supplied prises d'eau. by these several canals is 83; viz., Municipal Canal, 28; Dayot, 20; Bathurst, 29. Six streets are supplied conjointly by the Municipal and Bathurst, or Municipal and Dayot Canals. The number of plied.

streets unsupplied is 50.

An analysis of the Pouce stream, above the railway diversion, was also made; with reference to Pouce stream. An analysis of the Pouce stream, above the railway diversion, was also made; with reference to which Dr. Guthrie remarks:—"The great quantity of organic matter in this water needs no comment. "The appreciable quantities of nitric and phosphoric acids, and the large quantity of alkalis, point "unmistakeably to sewage as the main cause of the impurity. Whatever may be the merits of the question of the diversion of the Pouce stream, in an engineering point of view, only one result can "follow from the accumulation of an exposed mass of foul and stagnant water in one of the most densely peopled parts of the town." "On both sides of the Midland Railway, as it leaves the town" (writes Dr. Guthrie), "is a series of pestiferous puddles. An analysis of the water of one of these can "give but a faint idea of their offensiveness to sight and smell, and, I presume, of their injuriousness to health. This water is evidently neither more nor less than sewage."

A series of experiments was also made to determine how far the water of the several canals exercised

A series of experiments was also made to determine how far the water of the several canals exercised Action of the a corrosive action on lead, soft water having generally that property. The results, however, were water on lead negative, except in the case of the Bathurst Canal, and Dr. Guthrie concludes by recommending that

lead service-pipes should not be used for that water.

Poisons.

It is well known that the Indians are addicted to the use of poisons. Suspected cases of poisoning are of frequent occurrence. During the last two years there have been upwards of 50 such cases. Poison was detected by the Government analyst in 19 specimens—consisting either of portions of food, or of the contents of the alimentary canal, removed after death—submitted to him for examination; If of the specimens contained stramonium, 4 opium, the others, oxide and sulphate of zinc, and sulphuric acid. Stramonium appears, therefore, to be the favourite poison. The seeds of this plant, ground into powder, and mixed with food, is the mode usually adopted for its administration. The symptoms produced by the poison during life are sufficiently well marked to be easily recognized, but the post-mortem appearances are such as might arise from other causes; and unfortunately there is no the post-mortem appearances are such as might arise from other causes; and unfortunately there is no known chemical test by which the presence of this particular poison can be detected with certainty. The microscope is, however, likely to become a valuable agent in the investigation, and has already, in Mr. Fleurot's hands, proved successful. It is supposed that many deaths from poisoning occur amongst the Indian population, which are registered as deaths from fever, and give rise to no inquiry. This assumed fact suggests two important questions; first, whether medical certificates of the cause of death should not be required by law; and secondly, whether measures should not be taken for the destruction of the plant stramonium, which is found growing in every part of the Island, and especially in the neighbourhood of Indian camps. As regards the first question, I have already, in previous reports when dwelling on the excessive number of still-births and the large infant mortality, pointed reports, when dwelling on the excessive number of still-births, and the large infant mortality, pointed reports, when dwelling on the excessive number of still-births, and the large infant mortality, pointed out the expediency of requiring medical certificates; and the experience of another year convinces me that such a measure would be most useful in checking the evil now under consideration. The second requiring mediquestion was carefully considered by the General Board of Health, who decided not to recommend cal certificates. any legislative interference. Other poisonous plants, well known to the Indians (the Belladonna, for Poisonous instance), grow abundantly in the Island, and it would be a harsh law to compel proprietors to eradicate plants. all from their estates, and one indeed that it would be impossible to enforce. They might, however, be advised and encouraged to check the growth of the stramonium, as far as practicable, in the vicinity of their camps. But it is believed that poisonous drugs are commonly sold in the bazaars and Indian Poisonous shops,—an evil of far greater magnitude. It is one with which the law professes to deal, but it is to be drugs. feared that much laxity prevails in this respect, and the attention of Local Boards should be given to the subject. the subject.

DISTRICTS.

Port Louis.

The number of births registered in the district of Port Louis in 1865 was 3,107, of which 1,621 Births. were male and 1,486 female, 2,019 of those births were among the general and ex-apprentice

MAURITIUS.

population, and 1,088 among the Indian. Compared with 1864, there was an increase of 129 births.

The birth-rate was 3.87, or rather more than one birth to 25 persons living. The mean birth-rate

in England is 3.318, or one to 30.

The number of deaths registered in the same district was 3,888, of which 2,384 were male and Deaths. 1,504 female. 2,152 were among the general and ex-apprentice population, and 1,736 among the Indian. There was an increase of 494 in the number of deaths as compared with 1864.

The death-rate was 4.84, and the excess of deaths over births was 781.

Causes of death. Fever.

Dysentery and

diarrhœa

Tetanus. Measles.

Still-births. Suicide.

Leprosy.

1,105 (equal to 28 per cent.) of the total deaths were caused by fever. The mortality from that cause was greater in the Indian than in the general population: of the former, 627 died; of the latter, 478. Of the total number, 489 were children under five years of age, and 307 were persons in the prime of life, viz., those between the ages of 25 and 45 years, and of the latter class 239 were males. 633 persons, of whom the majority belonged to the general population, died from pulmonary diseases; and again by far the larger proportion were from the two classes above mentioned, viz., infants, and those between the ages of 25 and 45 years. Dysentery and diarrhea were more fatal than in the previous year, and also selected the great majority of their victims from the same two classes. from apoplexy were numerous, as usual; of the 79 deaths from that cause, only 15 occurred amongst the Indian population. Deaths from tetanus were nearly twice as numerous as in 1864. There were 75 deaths from measles, 66 of which were among the general population. In 1864 there was only one death from measles, 66 of which were almong the general population. In 1864 there was only one death from measles. 44 women died in childbed, of whom two were under 15 years of age. The number of still-births was 306, and the majority occurred among the general population. Suicides were six in number, the same as in the previous year. Violent and accidental deaths were 70, against 59 in 1864; the number of deaths from drowning during the inundation of February being sufficient to account for the increase. 19 deaths from leprosy were registered, viz., Indian population 11, general population 8; of the former, all the deaths were of males; of the latter, the proportion of the sexes was equal. Families have so great an interest in concealing any leprous taint, that the probability is that the above figures do not represent the total mortality from that cause; but assuming that they do, and estimating the population of Port Louis as about a quarter of that of the whole Island, 76 deaths from leprosy in the year would represent a fearful amount of disease. Some years ago, a committee was appointed to inquire into the nature, cause, progress, and best mode of treatment of leprosy, in Mauritius, but, owing to circumstances, no report, I am informed, was ever made. The question is a most important one, and might be revived with advantage. No deaths from venereal disease are recorded, but there is reason to believe that it prevails to a frightful extent in the town. No disease tends more to undermine the health and impair the constitution, and thus it may indirectly be the cause of many deaths. Some of the medical practitioners are of opinion that the time has arrived for placing an unfortunate class of women under surveillance, as is done in France, and lately in some garrison towns in England.

Venereal

disease.

Infant mortality. Adult mortality.

The total infant mortality (children under five years of age) in 1864 was 1,252; in 1865 it amounted to 1,559. The deaths of persons between 25 and 45 years of age in 1864 were 1,070; in 1865 they were 1,120. The deaths among these two classes formed nearly 70 per cent. of the total mortality. Fever became very general in the town after the inundation of February, especially amongst children, but can hardly be said to have assumed an epidemic character; the great quantity of filth stirred up by the flood, and which found its way into the ground-floors and cellars of houses, and the vast accumulations of mud in various localities, which, until they could be removed, lay exposed to the sun, were quite sufficient to account for the spread of fever. The ultimate effect of the flood was, however, doubtless beneficial.

Sanitary works.

It will be seen that the total expenditure of the Local Board of Port Louis was 4,794l. 10s. 1014d., of which sum 1,309%. 6s. 0d. was expended on what are described as sanitary works, which consisted of opening and repairing gutters, cleaning rivulets and sewers, macadamizing certain streets, and, after the inundation of February, removing accumulations of mud from various localities. No permanent works of any consequence were executed. The Pouce and Tonnier streams were widened and deepened, but were not materially improved thereby, having soon relapsed to their former condition. Little indeed was done for the permanent improvement of the town. The various sanitary evils pointed out in my last report, for the most part, still exist. Early in the year that report was referred by the Local Board to a committee, which, I believe, never met. The local inspectors, judging from their returns, appear to have been active in the discharge of their duties, although the number of cases brought before the district magistrate, and the amount of fines inflicted, were small in comparison with the number of contraventions of the law established, and of nuisances recorded. It is satisfactory to find that something, however little, was done towards remedying the evils of overcrowding and defective ventilation of houses. 52 dwelling-rooms were closed as unfit for habitation, and six parties were prosecuted for overcrowding. The quantity of damaged and unwholesome provisions seized and condemned was extraordinary. No less than 6,456 bags of rice and 759 bags of wheat are enumerated amongst the various articles condemned.

Overcrowded and badly ventilated dwellings Prosecutions. Damaged provisions.

It appears to have been the custom formerly to throw into the sea all damaged grain, immediately after its condemnation, but of late a middle course has been adopted. Certain portions have been stored, and afterwards disposed of, but to whom, or for whose benefit, or for what purpose, does not appear. This has given rise to some discussion, and different opinions have been expressed as to the propriety of this measure. If food intended for human consumption is found, on inspection, to be so damaged as to be unfit for its purpose, the sooner it is destroyed the better. It would not be safe to run the risk of its getting into the hands of unscrupulous persons, who might dispose of it to those whom poverty might induce to use it as food for themselves instead of for their pigs.

The number of straying animals destroyed by the Local Board of Health and the police in the last year was 1,437, which included 142 mad dogs. This is a startling fact, if fact it be. Possibly, canine

Mad dogs.

madness would be less common if the premium offered for the destruction of mad dogs was not MAURITIUS.

twenty times as great as for that of ordinary animals found straying.

Most of the nuisances reported were those which naturally result from a defective system of drainage, and must be expected to recur until a better system is adopted. This subject was treated at length in my last report, and it is only necessary for me to repeat that it is one of the most vital importance to the health of the town.

RURAL DISTRICTS.

The information conveyed by the monthly reports of the Local In pectors varied considerably in Inspectors' amount, but showed great uniformity in the nature of the sanitary evils represented. A few notes and reports. extracts from those reports will suffice to show this.

Pamplemousses.

The camps of several estates which suffered much from fever during the year are represented as being "damp and in close proximity to water." Writing on this subject, the President of this Local Board remarks, that "although dampness, caused by frequent rains, and a bad quality of water, which "is rendered impure by earthy and other matters carried into the streams by the rains, have doubtless a pernicious influence upon the health of the labourers on the Rosalie estate, the mortality that has "occurred there during the last five months as far as L can judge is to be accounted for by the fact "occurred there during the last five months, as far as I can judge, is to be accounted for by the fact of the estate having received several gangs of new immigrants, many of whom, as I am informed, had fever, diarrhea, and dysentery on their arrival. I am informed that the mortality from these diseases was almost exclusively among the new immigrants."

The localities in which the greatest mortality occurred appear to have been "Long Mountain and neighbourhood," the "Nicolière," "Maison Blanche," "Solitude," "L'Amitié," and "Rosalie"

This district has been divided into four sections, and an inspector appointed to each; but all do not appear to have performed their duties to the satisfaction of the Board. An inspector has been appointed specially for the market, which is an excellent measure, as unwholesome provisions had been frequently exposed for sale.

A public fountain seems to be much needed for the village of Pamplemousses, and the Local Board

are applying for permission to take their supply of water for that purpose from the gardens.

Rivière du Rempart.

The local inspector, reporting a heavy mortality on "Forbach" estate, says:—"This camp being "made with stone, and covered with tin, it is impossible to employ the usual sanitary measures, viz., "unroofing and burning the roof, as when composed of straw," and recommends the abandonment of the camp as the only means of checking the epidemic. On this and several other estates mentioned, the inspector states that "there are dungheaps in close proximity and to windward of the camps." He also states that "all the animals which die on these estates are buried in the dungheaps, and, more"over, these dungheaps are continually irrigated, and always very damp, which is the principal cause
"of the danger; for this dampness, warmed by the sun, produces noxious emanations, which spread
"through the camps." He also states that pigs and goats are allowed in the camps, and that it is impossible to keep them out of the huts of the labourers.

Frequent mention is made in the inspector's reports of the pollution of streams by the residues from sugar-houses, and of the nuisances occasioned thereby; and, on the motion of the Government Medical

Officer, the Local Board resolved that stringent measures should be taken to repress the evil.

Flaca.

The inspector of this district furnished no report during the year, but a certain amount of information is conveyed in the minutes of the Local Board.

Great difficulty is still experienced in obtaining land for cemeteries, which appear to be much

needed.

The want of public slaughter-houses is mentioned, and some intention expressed of supplying it. The evils arising from the pollution of rivers and canals by residues from the sugar mills are dwelt upon, and various remedial measures suggested, the Board apparently being impressed with a conviction that the public health suffers from that cause.

Grand Port.

The nature of the sanitary evils in this district are partly those of a town and partly those of the country; the reports do not convey an idea of any great amount of contravention, when it is considered that a considerable population resides in Mahebourg and its suburbs.

sidered that a considerable population resides in Mahebourg and its suburbs.

The nuisances reported are,—dirty camps and dwellings; dirty privies and pigsties; nuisances from dungheaps; animals kept in human dwellings; the sale of bad provisions, &c. Some gutters were in a filthy state, and a few houses were declared unfit for habitation.

One of the inspectors stated in May that the sanitary condition of the town of Mahebourg was pretty good; but that in the rural quarters, and among Indian camps, a less satisfactory state of things existed. He attributes some blame to the law itself, in reference to the absence of any provision for summary proceeding on the part of the sanitary inspectors:—"Were those officers," he says, empowered to act with more authority, or more expeditiously, "in cases of contravention of the law, the "condition of the district would soon become very fair."

18090.

MAURITIUS.

Savanne.

This district appears to have been in a very satisfactory state of sanitary discipline during the year, when compared with certain others.

The rivers have been reported "clean," and "in an excellent state," all through the year. The only case of pollution by mill-water occurred in December; the name of the estate is not given.

The Indian camps also were reported to be clean, few cases being mentioned to the contrary. In December, thowever, the inspector states that "the Indian camps on sugar plantations were not found." "in a satisfactory state of cleanliness: 22 contraventions were established, and brought home against the parties." He does not furnish any explanation of so sudden an alteration for the worse in the "the parties." He does not furnish any explanation of so sudden an alteration for the worse in the camps, after a whole year's favourable report. In September, however, he calls attention to the nuisances arising from the absence of privies, and says that "it is impossible for a sanitary inspector to "have the camps of estates kept clean, so long as the Indian immigrants perform the wants of nature "in the immediate vicinity of their respective huts. In the event of fever or cholera breaking out, the stench caused by the excrements of a large camp would cause the disease to spread. I would, there-" fore, most respectfully submit that it be rendered compulsory on the planters to have several large

"privies in their camps; the same to be constantly purified by lime."

Notwithstanding the alleged general salubrity of the district, the following diseases existed at various periods during the year; viz., fever, dysentery, diarrhæa, cholerine, chicken-pox, and malignant sore throat. It will be seen that the heaviest mortality from dysentery and diarrhæa, relatively to

population, occurred in this district.

An epizootic disease broke out on the "Long Champ" estate in May; 13 mules died there, and four on a neighbouring estate, but the disease did not spread further.

The inspector calls attention to the fact, that among the Indians it was almost invariably new immigrants who were attacked with fever; and that the mortality from that cause was greatly increased by intemperance in eating and drinking on the part of convalescents.

Black River.

The reports from this district convey only negative information as to its sanitary condition. But for the occasional mention of Bombay fever during the first months of the year, one would draw the most favourable inferences. Towards the latter part of the year, however, there seems to have been a change for the worse, as the inspector states, in July, that "the sanitary state of the district is not in "so good condition as during the last three months. No remarks during the month, unless several cases of Bombay fever and measles." In August he reports the "sanitary condition of the district "in general in not so good condition as during the last six months;—many cases of Bombay fever and measles." In September, the sanitary condition was "better"; in October, "in good condition"; "no remarks, or any prevailing disease"; in November, "in better condition"; "Bombay fever on Wolmar estate."

As only one contravention of the law was taken during the year, and not a single nuisance reported to have existed, Black River must be regarded as a model district, forming a singular exception to every other. This is interesting in connection with the low rate of mortality for which this district has always been conspicuous. But the reports from this district are characterized by an entire absence of details, and are far from being satisfactory.

Plaines Wilhems.

The local inspector, in his May report, speaks of the pollution of the Rivière du Médine, as it flows through the "Bon Accord" estate, quantities of filth from the camp being washed into the river by the rain; and of another river which traverses the "Belle Terre" estate being polluted by accumulations of feecal matter, and by residues from a sugar-house. He speaks also of stables and pigsties being built on the borders of the rivers. "On the 'Bagatelle' estate the canal is polluted whenever the mill is at work," and states that the Indians wash their persons and their clothes in the canal, along the course of which are several camps. In November, he deplores the bad sanitary condition of "too many of the sugar estates." He states that the residues are generally allowed to flow into the rivers and canals, and thinks the evil so great as to demand the most serious consideration. He believes diarrhea and dysentery are caused by the drinking of impure water. He mentions the general dirty condition of the camps, and their being crowded with goats and other animals. Reporting the absence of public slaughter-houses, he states that "animals are killed in the open air," "and the meat, after exposure to the weather, is stored for the night in the dwelling of the butcher; often in the room where the family sleeps." He describes the Indian villages, especially that of Rose Hill, as being greatly crowded; and the Chinamen's shops as choked with persons and provisions, and generally emitting foul odours, and states that putrid salt meat is occasionally to be found in those

The localities mentioned as having suffered most from fever were "Vacoa," "Curepipe," and the

" Phœnix" estate.

Moka.

There is nothing salient in the sanitary reports of this district, except it be that the Reduit Canal seems to be a favourite subject for contravention on the part of Indians,—washing, bathing, and throwing dirt into the canal being among the cases reported almost every month.

The inspector states, in April, that a central cemetery is very much wanted in the district. The state of Indian camps, although not generally mentioned, does not seem to be good; the inspector observing that they are "badly built, the cases low and narrow, having more the aspect of pigsties than "human habitations."

Bombay fever prevailed throughout the whole year, and particularly on the "Hermitage" estate, where it was very fatal.

The "Moka," "Souillac," and "Jacquart" rivers are stated to have been polluted by the residues of MAURITIUS. sugar factories.

SUMMARY.

The various sanitary evils referred to in this and former reports may be thus summed up; and first, as regards

Port Louis.

1. The defective drainage of the town, which demands the most serious consideration.

The overcrowded condition and defective construction of certain camps and dwellings. 3. The unrestricted liberty enjoyed by the Indians in the erection of their miserable huts within the limits of the town, utterly regardless of their own and the public health.

4. The evils arising from the unlawful possession and sale of poisons.

5. The deplorable condition of most of the rivers and streams, especially the Pouce diversion and Butte à Tonnier; the first of which, unless it be obliterated and the old channel to the sea reopened, should be paved and periodically flushed; and the latter converted into a covered sewer.

6. The insufficient number of public fountains, the irregular and defective water supply, and the absence of public baths and wash-houses.

7. The inadequate number of public latrines, and the various nuisances arising from the present

system of night service.

8. The lamentable condition of many of the roads and gutters, and the nuisance occasioned by dust in the dry weather, from the non-employment of water-carts.

Rural Districts.

1. The pollution of rivers and canals by the residues from sugar houses and distilleries.

2. The defective water supply to many camps on estates, and the general absence of filtres.

3. The unhealthy sites and defective construction of many camps; their dirty and overcrowded condition; and the evils resulting from the presence of goats, pigs, and other animals within their precincts.

4. The badly placed manure heaps, which are generally too near, and often to windward of the

camps.
5. The neglected state of many cemeteries, public and private; and the need in some districts of additional burial-grounds.

6. The absence of slaughter-houses, and the evils resulting therefrom.7. The inadequate provision made for the medical relief of the poor,—the want of asylums for their

reception, and of dispensaries for their treatment.

8. The want of asylums for the reception and isolation of persons afflicted with leprosy. The establishment of such asylums has been strongly advocated by the Central Poor Relief Committee, and would be a most admirable measure. An opinion prevails generally that this frightful disease is communicable; at any rate, there seems no doubt that it is spreading amongst all classes of the community.

9. To these several evils may be added that of an alleged insufficient medical inspection of new immigrants before they are sent to work on the plantations. Some of the local reports speak of such

men being received from the depôt when suffering from fever, dysentry, and diarrhœa.

LOCAL BOARD MINUTES.

The Minutes of Meetings of most of the Local Boards have from time to time embodied opinions Port Louis. and resolutions, equally condemnatory of the present sanitary law.

The Local Board of Port Louis proposes, 1st, "To suppress the sanitary office as it now is and to give over its duties to the Municipal Corporation (who shall keep distinct and separate books and accounts as prescribed by law). The duties of sanitary inspection to be carried on by the present officers.

2d. "The Municipal Corporation to make provision for such funds as may be necessary for the works and expenses of the Board, who shall, in any case of emergency, or for certain special works,

levy a sanitary tax.

3d. "Owners of premises (after being informed by public notice) to declare within a prescribed delay, the name, surname, profession, and residence of their tenants, and the amount of their rent. Proprietors not complying to be answerable for the tax."

The Local Board of Pamplemousses is of opinion "that the sanitary rate should be collected by Pamplemousses."

Government, and sanitary inspection entrusted to the police."

With reference to a resolution lately passed by the Local Board of this district, the President

remarks: "The figures therein quoted show that out of 5991. 16s. 4d., the total amount of the rates collected "The figures therein quoted show that out of 599l. 16s. 4d., the total amount of the rates collected during the last thirteen months, the four sanitary inspectors have received, as fixed salaries, allowances, and per-centage on rates collected, 380l. 10s. The amount of rates uncollected is 521l. 3s. 8d. This result shows how the inspectors have performed their duties as collectors. If the work they have done in their capacity of inspectors could be similarly measured, the result would be,—I have no hesitation in saying—that a very small portion of those 380l. 10s. has been earned in that way by three out of the four of those officers. The fourth inspector's collecting limits were in September last confined to the village of Pamplemousses and vicinity, which leaves him comparatively free for his duties as inspector. The fact is, as my observations plainly show me, that these collecting inspectors play off one part of their duties against the other, and make each a means of

MAURITIUS.

"shirking the other. Thus, if few collections have been made, a long list of premises said to have been inspected is given in; if nuisances, &c. have not been reported, the absence of the inspector to "try to collect rates is made the excuse. It is for this reason that I proposed the scheme set forth in "the resolution under notice, considering that it would be better to pay for collections even the very " high rate of 15 per cent. on the amount collected than to pay, as we are now doing, rates collected or " not collected, an at least equal amount as salary to two inspectors, over and above the number that "would be required if the inspectors had only their legitimate duties to perform.

"As I shall, probably, not be chairman of this Board many weeks longer, I feel bound, if only pour

" acquit de conscience, to record my protest against the present state of things, against the levying of a rate, the costs of collection of which (reckoning the services of the collecting inspectors, as inspectors, at their real value, and allowing as expenses of collection half of the secretary's fees and of office expenses) may fairly be estimated at something very near 50 per cent. on the amount

"At the risk of troubling the General Board with matters, perhaps, not within their province, I take "leave to remark that it is unfortunate for the ratepayers that the sanitary rate and the poor's rate

"cannot be collected together, and by the same officers."

The Local Board of Grand Port considers the law "altogether inoperative for the repression of those nuisances against which the byelaws have been framed."

2d. "That the means of coercion left to the Board by Ordinance No. 18 of 1860 are altogether insufficient, not to say null."

3d. "That to enforce the law, as it is at present, would necessarily require a staff of officers by far "more numerous than the financial position of the Board would allow."

The Local Board of Plaines Wilhems are of opinion, "that without some change in the law it will be impossible for the Board to exercise its functions, and that Government should be requested to

" undertake the recovery of the rates."

The Local Board of Moka states, "it is difficult to find in the district a sufficient number of

" enlightened and influential men willing to serve on the Board."

2d. "That the Board of Health, as now constituted, does not render the services which the com"munity has the right to expect, in presence of the enormous sanitary rates paid, and that it could
"only work with advantage and be necessary in times of epidemics. That the inhabitants are
"unwilling to pay the sanitary tax (as is proved by the arrears) on the grounds that the district
"derives no advantage whatever to balance the cost of the institution, and that in ordinary times a
"sanitary inspector to correspond with the General Board would amply answer the wants of the
"district."*

FINANCE.

The Revenue and Expenditure for 1865 shows, 1st, that there was a difference of 4,900*l*. between the estimated and actual revenue of Port Louis; 2d, that only 485*l*. of the 1,860*l*. to have been collected for extraordinary purposes after the inundation of February was recovered; and 3d, that only 1,309l., instead of the estimated sum of 3,860l., was expended on drainage, and other sanitary

In some of the rural districts the difference between the estimated and actual revenue and expenditure was also considerable, particularly in Pamplemousses, Grand Port, Black River, and Plaines Wilhems. In one district 350l. was estimated for works, and only 48l. expended; in another 1401. and nothing expended. The amount expended on works formed less than one-fourth of the total expenditure.

The estimated revenue of all the Local Boards for 1866 is 12,140*l*., that of Port Louis being 6,941*l*. Port Louis proposes to expend 2,000*l*. in the repair of gutters, the only sanitary work projected. The amount estimated for works in the other districts is 1,930*l*., which includes the repayment of 538*l*. either advanced by Government and others, or due to contractors for works already completed, and 300% for scavengering at Mahebourg. The new works consist of cemeteries at Pamplemousses and Moka, and a fountain and slaughter-house at Flacq.

From the year 1861, when the Sanitary Ordinance first came into operation, to the end of the year

1865, the estimated revenue of all the Local Boards was 61,051*l*.; their actual revenue was 38,955*l*. The amount estimated for sanitary works was 26,364*l*; the amount actually expended on such

works was 6,3481.

The nature of the works executed in Port Louis may be described as drainage works,—the cleaning of rivers and brooks, the repair of roads and gutters, and the establishment of a few public latrines. For such works the large sum of 22,555l. was estimated during the five years, and the total amount expended upon them was 4,2791.

In the country districts the permanent works consisted of several cemeteries (say six), one hospital, (at Plaines Wilhems), not yet paid for, and a fountain, and the amount expended thereon was

The total arrears of rates due to the several Local Boards on the 31st December 1865 amounted to 10,125L, of which 6,472L belonged to Port Louis. About one half of the total arrears is considered as irrecoverable.

The total liabilities of all the Local Boards at the same date amounted to 4,755l., of which sum Port Louis owed 4,058l.

During the above five years the ordinary rate of Port Louis varied from $2\frac{1}{2}d$. to $7\frac{1}{2}d$. in the pound, and in the rural districts from 2d. to 9d. The highest average rates were levied in Moka and Port Louis, viz., $5\frac{3}{10}d$. and $5\frac{1}{5}d$.; the lowest in Pamplemousses and Flacq, viz., $3\frac{3}{5}d$.

Plaines Wilhems.

Grand Port.

Moka.

^{*} These observations were embodied in the report for 1864.

J.3.

Diagram, shewing the relative Impurities.

of the Canals, and Powce Stream.

	Grand River Dam of Municipal Canal	Municipal Canal Royal College	Municipul Canal Champ de Lort	Dayot Canal Royal College	Dayot Canal Cassis	Bathurst Canal Dam	Buthurst Cun al Plaine Verte	Pouce Stream Rail way Diversion
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The following table shows the value of assessed property in each district of the Island upon which Mauritius. the sanitary rates are levied:—

District.						Assessed Value.
						. — <u>—</u>
Port Louis -	-13	M. J.	-	STATE OF	-	1,653,340
Pamplemousses		1 - TO -				63,338
Rivière de Rempart	-		-	No. Sales Mi	-	19,700
Flacq -	-	-		-	_	25,240
Grand Port -	1	-	-		-	29,000
Savanne -	-	turn de la		W-07	-	117,501
Black River -	_		-		-	15,000
Plaines Wilhems	-	201		- 200	-	40,219
Moka	-	60- LV	-			19,393
						£1,982,731
						Demand when the same of the sa

February 26, 1866.

C. F. Edwards, General Sanitary Inspector.

Enclosure 3 in No. 18.

Encl. 3 in

ANALYSIS.—RIVERS.

		Rivière du Rempart.	Black River.	Rivière des Anguilles.	Rivière du Poste.	Rivière La Chaux.	Grand River S.E.
		0	0	0		0	1 0
Hardness	-	7:0	5.6	4.0	2.6	3.0	3.4
Total residue	-	10.536	7.414	5.216	3.682	4.263	4.597
Organic matter	-	1.392	1.043	0.914	0.087	0.599	0.722
Mineral residue	-	9.144	6.371	4.302	2.875	3.664	3.875
Mineral Residue.							
Silica	-	0.525	0.544	0.331	0.171	0.193	0.204
Alumina		0.911	0.613	0.353	0.163	0.261	0.581
Iron (sesqui-oxide) -	-	0.073	0.068	0.039	0.020	0.034	0.036
Lime	-	2.128	1.807	1.076	0.636	0.778	0.839
Chloride of sodium -	-	0.880	0.322	0.390	0.290	0.397	0.408
Do. potassium -	-	0.717	0.276	0.362	0.277	0.379	0.393
Magnesia	-	0.333	0.500	0.077	0.033	0.052	0.059
Sulphuric acid	-	3.010	0.222	1.538	1.063	1.344	1.438
Carbonic acid	-	0.565	0.341	0.212	0.189	0.501	0.202
Phosphoric acid		0.007	Trace.	Trace.			-
		19.49	6.392	4.348	2.842	3.649	3.860

Enclosure 4 in No. 18.

Encl. 4 in No. 18.

REPORT ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS in MAURITIUS supported or assisted by GOVERNMENT, during the Year 1865.

May it please your Excellency,

I beg to lay before your Excellency the following Report, in which the state of Education in our Government and Denominational Schools for the past year is reviewed:—

1. It has been thought desirable to premise the present Report with a succinct sketch of the rise, progress, and development of Elementary Instruction in Mauritius.

Materials from which to compile a very complete account are scanty, and the information in

certain cases not very authentic.

2. It appears, from the earliest records extant, that the original Educational Board, denominated and constituted by a Decree dated 14th May 1800, the Committee of Public Instruction had assigned to it the duty of superintending all schools, both public and private; nor could any seminary be opened without its consent. It was also empowered to inquire into the character and qualifications of all persons seeking employment as teachers.

3. At the time of the capitulation of the Island there existed, it is said, but one public and one private

school.

4. By an Imperial Order in Council, dated 10th August 1836, the Committee of Public Instruction was limited in its superintendence to the Royal College and the Government Schools, inasmuch as the

Decree abrogated all laws and proclamations by which private institutions were subjected to State control; hence private enterprise was left unfettered, with the simple restriction that persons exercising the fuctions of a schoolmaster should be natural-born or naturalized subjects.

The Board, known until recently as the Education Committee, was instituted under Royal sanction in July 1840, by virtue of Ordinance No. 6, passed in the previous year. The list of original members comprised the names of the Honourable G. F. Dick, the Right Reverend Dr. Morris, the Reverend Langrishe Banks, Mr. Felix Faduilhe, and Mr. Evenor Dupont,—men whose names are worthy of record in the annals of education for having laid the foundation upon which the superstructure

of our present system has been reared.

6. Official records testify to the existence in the year 1843 of five Government Schools in Port Louis, one at Pamplemousses, and one at Grand Bay; containing, in all, about 500 scholars. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel also had two schools in Port Louis and four in the provinces, numbering 400 pupils more. The Mico trustees had three in Port Louis and seven in the country, with 600 on books. The London Society had four schools in Port Louis and one district school, containing 350 on books. These were supplemented by another, established and supported by Lady Gomm, at Reduit.

7. On the 8th March 1842 a Despatch from the Home Government was communicated to the

7. On the 8th March 1842 a Despatch from the Home Government was communicated to the Education Committee, notifying to the Board that the parliamentary grant then made to the Mico trustees would cease at the expiration of five years from the date in question.

8. Upon the extinction of the grant the Local Government undertook the entire support of these schools, by funds from the Colonial Treasury, and under authority of the Secretary of State, by Despatch, No. 43, of 20th January 1843, the services of the Reverend J. M. de Joux, the Mico superintendent, with those of the teachers employed under him, were taken over and retained.

9. This arrangement gave birth to the Schools' Department. The stream of popular education quietly flowed on, and the traditions of the office bear testimony to the zeal and administrative tact with which its respective heads have carried out their important labours.

with which its respective heads have carried out their important labours.

10. The school now known as the Western Juvenile School was the first free institution of the kind opened under the auspices of the British Government. To this school, which came into existence on the 3rd January 1823, a Mr. Jenkins, upon the nomination of Sir Robert T. Farquhar, was appointed the 3rd January 1823, a Mr. Jenkins, upon the nomination of Sir Robert T. Farquhar, was appointed master. About the same period a Female Juvenile School, supported by voluntary contributions, was established under the auspices of the Honourable and Reverend E. Finch, Civil Chaplain, and managed by a Ladies' Committee. This school, in the year 1829, was transferred to Government, and from that time has remained in the pay and direction of the Schools' Department.

11. In the year 1837 was established the first Colonial Infant School. The first Boys' School, founded and supported by private liberality, was the one at present known as the Eastern Suburb School; this also, in the year 1835, was made over to Government. Three years subsequently a Girls' School was annexed to it.

Girls' School was annexed to it.

12. The Pamplemousses School was instituted for the children of the blacks employed in the Queen's Gardens, and was placed under the direction of a Mr. Courtois, who for many years had been a catechist among them.

13. The school at Grand River owes its existence to the beneficence of the Mauritius Branch of the

Ladies' Negro Education Society, and was made over to the Schools' Department in the year 1843.

14. From these parent schools, directly or indirectly, all others have sprung. The popularity of free institutions did not, however, keep pace with the increasing prosperity of the Colony; and in the year 1844 the Committee had to complain in very unmistakeable terms of the apathy of the parents, and the unsettled habits of the children, which, combined, threatened to paralyze the efforts of the Board, and defeat the object for which such schools had been established. Nor is it probable that they would have long survived the period of infancy but for the munificent assistance rendered by the Incorporated Society, whose expenditure in the erection and support of schools had, up to the year Incorporated Society, whose expenditure in the erection and support of schools had, up to the year

1845, amounted to several thousand pounds.

15. In the year 1860 Ordinance No. 38 was passed, to make better provision for the control and management of the Royal College and Government Schools. By virtue of this Act the Board, then designated the "Education Committee," was to be superseded by a Council of Education, to be composed of not more than 10 ordinary and 10 extraordinary members, chosen annually by the Governor. Of this Council the Rector of the Royal College and the Superintendent of Government Schools were

constituted ex officio members, the latter being also secretary.

16. The Ordinance also provides for the appointment of a President and Vice-President, defines their powers and duties, authorizes the constitution of Committees for the Royal College and Government

Schools respectively, and defines the duties and powers of these Boards.

17. By Section XX. "the Council is constituted a Corporation, to the effect of being able to receive "and hold property, moveable and immoveable, which may be granted, bequeathed, or presented to it for the purpose of endowing professorial chairs, lectureships, bursaries, or prizes, or for founding libraries or museums in the Royal College, or in any Government School in the Colony, or for the purpose of endowing any school to be administered as the Government Schools, in terms of this "Ordinance."

18. In the year 1857, upon the appointment of the late Mr. Walsh, there were 24 Government Schools, but none assisted by grants. In the following year, by virtue of Ordinance No. 6, of 1856, grants were assigned, for the first time, in aid of Denominational Schools. Before his death, the late superintendent had the satisfaction of seeing placed under his inspection no less than 33 of these

institutions, making a total of 57 schools.

19. The number at present under the superintendence and inspection of the Department is 97 (the Indian Orphan Asylum, the Grand River Reformatory School, and schools with grants in temporary abeyance, not included).

20. Of this number 44 are supported exclusively by Government, and the remainder assisted by annual grants in aid of maintenance

21. In the grant-in-aid schools, with few exceptions, the instruction is gratuitous; in those of the

Government the fee is one shilling per mensem. The revenue from this source has during the current MAURITIUS. year amounted to 796l. 5s. 7d.

22. To orphans and children, well accredited to be in necessitous circumstances, admission is free. 23. The average age of the children in the Government Creole Schools, taken in respect to 2,580

boys, is 9 years; and in respect to 842 girls, 8 years.

24. In the Government Indian Schools the ages vary from 5 to 13 years.

25. In the Government Schools the number of pupils on roll was, on the 1st December, 2,580 boys and 842 girls; in all, 3,422. Of these, there were 884 Indians. Compared with the last year's returns the increase in the number of scholars amounts to 757.

26. According to the last quarterly returns, there were on the books of the Denominational Schools 1,301 boys and 1,274 girls; in all, 2,575, or 319 in excess of the number under instruction at a corresponding period in 1864.

27. The average daily attendance, as estimated upon the December returns, was for the Government

Schools 1,808 boys and 532 girls; in all, 2,340, being an increase of 356 as compared with last year. 28. At the Elementary Schools, according to the most recent returns, there were in average attend-

ance 817 boys and 854 girls; in all, 1,671, showing a decrease of seven scholars.

29. The pupils in the Government Schools are taught upon an uniform system, although the methods of tuition vary slightly in different schools.

30. In point of organization, discipline, and the subjects of instruction, there is no very appreciable

difference.

31. The services of the masters and mistresses are supplemented by pupil-teachers, and, in some

cases, by adult assistants and monitors.

32. A syllabus of instruction is issued at the commencement of each year, and the examinations are 32. A syllabus of instruction is issued at the commencement of each year, and the examinations are based upon this routine. The classes in most schools average from 15 to 21 scholars. The recent annual examinations—at some of which I have had the honour of being assisted by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Mauritius, General Johnstone, the Vice-President, and certain other members of the Council of Education—have shown marked progress in the subjects of arithmetic and geography, and an average degree of proficiency in most other branches. In former years, there has been no difficulty in determining which schools to select as worthy of special mention. Whilst, in one respect, I regret that it does not lie within my power to point to certain long-established schools as models of success, it is none the less gratifying to be able to place upon record a testimony, supported by other members of the Council of Education, to the assiduity of not a few other teachers, who, by dint of hard work and perseverance, have succeeded in placing their schools so much upon an equality, that hard work and perseverance, have succeeded in placing their schools so much upon an equality, that it is scarcely possible to say to which the palm of superiority is this year due.

33. In their knowledge of the English and French languages the schools have stood side by side.

In the case of several, arithmetic has taken the lead; in others, geography.

34. One school exhibited a marked deficiency in both these important branches, whilst none excelled

it in languages.

35. In writing short narratives in English or French from dictation (the sentences being selected, in most instances, from a daily journal), the errors in the former subject have ranged, in the two upper classes, from 4 to 14 per cent., in the latter from 2 to 18. Occasionally the exercises were given in without a fault, but as these instances were comparatively rare the fact is merely stated.

36. The specimens of writing exhibit nothing very remarkable over the productions of former years. 36. The specimens of writing exhibit nothing very remarkable over the production. It from the nature of the climate, penmanship is an employment which the children fully appreciate. It is their copy books exhibit as many of them do, clean and faultless lines. The is, therefore, no marvel if their copy books exhibit, as many of them do, clean and faultless lines. The principal cause of bad writing arises from the practice of giving pupils too large a quantity of copying to do, without an adequate amount of time in which to execute it neatly. And as respects other matters, what is once well done is twice done, so in writing, what is once well written is twice written.

37. In setting forth their points of excellence, I should be sorry if it were to be inferred that the schools are all that can be desired. They are far from that. With every new year new materials come to hand, and the teacher must again go over, with little variation, the ground he has

often passed before.

Salaries.

38. Teachers in the employ of Government are now much better paid than formerly. By reference to the Appendix it will be seen that the highest stipend drawn by any one master is 290% per annum, exclusive of lodgings and allowances.

39. The maximum paid to any one mistress is 170*l*., exclusive of rent and allowances.

The highest gratuity paid in any one case for the training of pupil-teachers is 311. 4s.

40. The average annual stipend of 20 masters, calculated upon the pay for the present year, is 1651., exclusive of gratuities and lodging money; that of the mistresses, taken with respect to 20, is about 84l. In cases where married couples are employed, the maximum joint sum paid in any single instance amounts to 390l.; the next highest is 310l., and the lowest 210l. per annum, exclusive of other emoluments.

41. In the Indian Schools the highest (and only instance of the kind) is 120%, per annum, paid to

any one master, and the lowest, on probation, 24l.

The average, taken with respect to 16 teachers, is about 45l. per annum, in addition to quarters or lodging allowance.

Elementary or Denominational Schools.

42. The state of education in the Elementary or Denominational Schools is, upon the whole, if one subject be excepted, satisfactory. As respects acquaintance with the English tongue, there is a marked deficiency among the scholars generally; and, inasmuch as the study of the English language constitutes one of the most important conditions upon which grants are made to schools, the renewal

of such aid in the year 1866 will necessarily depend very materially upon suitable arrangements being

made in the interim for the better fulfilment of this proviso.

43. In point of organization and discipline considerable improvement is manifest, and the services of the "Teachers of Method," who were appointed for the purpose of effecting reform in these par-

ticulars, have been favourably received and appreciated.

44. Two schools, among some others which might be mentioned, are worthy of special notice.

Under vigilant management, and taught by masters of aptitude and talent, the Roman Catholic Parish School of Moka and the Protestant Mission School, Camp Yoloff, have attained a state of efficiency alike creditable to the managers, teachers, and scholars.

Indian Schools.

45. To those who take an interest in the question of Indian education, it will be gratifying to learn that during the past year six new Indian Schools have been brought into operation under the direct auspices of Government, and that not less than 1,200 immigrant children are at the present moment under regular instruction.

46. Of the 30 Indian Schools now established, 10 are in receipt of grant, and 20 belong to Government. In the former there are 320 and in the latter 880 pupils, giving an average of 88 children for each of the schools under Government, and 32 for those known as Denominational Schools.

47. With so palpable a desire among the Indians for education, were suitable appliances at hand,

schools might be increased in much more rapid succession.

48. Since the completion of the railways some able and well-educated men, formerly engaged as clerks or overseers, have presented themselves for employment as teachers, and in several cases their services have been accepted.

49. Possessing, as the Indians appear to do, the peculiar power of self-adaptation to almost any analogous duty, a very brief period of training suffices to render men of intelligence very successful teachers; and conversant as most of them are with from three to five vernaculars, they are able to

exercise considerable influence among their countrymen.

50. The Indian Reformatory School at Grand River, in connection with the Vagrant Depôt, is a new feature in educational matters here, and no one visiting the inmates at their work can fail to be impressed with the importance of such an establishment, the tact with which it has been brought into operation, and the sound moral discipline which has been infused into all its parts. The principal drawback at present is that the inmates are only there for very brief periods.

51. The object of this institution will be best explained by the following extract from a prospectus

recently issued by Major Anson, to whose suggestion, under your Excellency's approval, it owes its

existence:

- "The object of a Reformatory," says the document in question, "is to provide a refuge from crime for such young persons as, not having attained the age of discretion, have rendered themselves "amenable to the criminal laws of the country; and a place of detention where, instead of mixing with "older and more hardened criminals in the common gaols, they may, by means of a moral and practically useful education, carried out under a strict system of discipline, tempered with judgment and kind-"ness, be weaned from their evil habits, and be restored to society as respectable members, able and willing to earn an honest livelihood,—thus diminishing the number of those who, brought up in a " course of crime, continue that course through life, and become, when in gaol, a burden on the
 - country, and when free a nuisance to the community at large.
 "The education of boys at a Reformatory should be divided under the three following heads:—

" 1. Moral.

" 2. Primarily theoretic. " 3. Practically useful.

"Under the first head they should be instructed in the first principles of religion, the moral obligations of servants towards their masters, and those portions of the law relating to servants and masters, and of the criminal code with which it would be most useful for them to be acquainted.

"Under the second head should be included such an acquaintance with the three Indian languages,

- "Under the second head should be included such an acquaintance with the three Indian languages, "Nagari, Tamil, and Coringhy, as would enable the boys speaking those several languages to under stand one another, and each to be able to read and write his own. They should also be taught to read and write the English language, and the first rules of arithmetic. Under this head, also, should be taught the primary rules for road making, stone working, carpentering, building, tailoring, shoe-making, conducting carts, or driving along the roads as carters or coachmen, horse-shoeing, black-smith's work, preserving public health, and for all the ordinary every day occupations of tradesmen and workmen in the Colony, all of which could be done by a series of simple viva voce questions and answers, with explanations from their master.
- answers, with explanations from their master.
 "Under the third head should be included sweeping, scrubbing, cleaning, and whitewashing, washing clothes, and all the other household occupations of the establishment; also working on the "wasning clotnes, and all the other nousehold occupations of the establishment; also working on the roads, attending and assisting the masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, and other tradesmen employed by the Surveyor-General's Department, and the performance of such other useful labour as it might be possible to carry out within the Reformatory itself, or by allowing well-conducted boys to work a certain number of hours a day for some of the respectable tradesmen in the neighbourhood of the Reformatory, which might facilitate boys in obtaining masters who could take an interest in them, at the expression of their term of detention, and at the same time has means of preserving here for " the expiration of their term of detention, and at the same time be a means of preserving boys from " the temptations which a sudden emancipation at the end of their period of detention might occasion.
- "In educating boys at a Reformatory, care should be taken not to do so in competition with those whose parents, by care and expense in their education, have brought them up in honesty and
- "respectability.

 "The amount of education aimed at should not exceed that which would put a boy in the position of having a fair start on leaving the Reformatory, if he should, by his own will and by his own efforts, it has a who had been correctly educated by their parents or friends." " determine to compete with those who had been carefully educated by their parents or friends."

52. The very inadequate supply of such books as can be judiciously used in the Indian Schools is a nstant source of inconvenience. Excellent works, of strictly a sectarian character, can be procured constant source of inconvenience. Excellent works, of strictly a sectarian character, can be procured with ease, but such are inadmissible, from the fact that their introduction would be antagonistic to the principle and nature of Government Schools.

53. Those employed have been selected with scrupulous care, and with a view to secular and moral

education, apart from all denominational and doctrinal differences.

54. The Denominational Schools have in this respect the advantage that no restrictions are imposed, and the managers are left unfettered in the choice of their materials, and in the extent of

their application.

55. The facility with which Coolie children, especially the Tamil race, acquire an acquaintance with the English language is quite remarkable. In accent, in fulness of intonation, and in correctness of expression, many first-class pupils could compete very fairly with the children of village schools in

56. The most successful of the newly established Indian Schools are those of Pamplemousses, Arsenal Road, Flacq, Plaines Wilhems, Western Suburb, and Cassis. Although but recently organized, they compare well in their results with similar institutions in another dependency, where the educa-

tional appliances are analogous to those employed here.

57. Female education is but in poor request among the Indians. By habit and by tradition they have for so long been accustomed to deal with their daughters in a manner destitute of every moral qualification, that years of enlightenment, precept, and example will yet be needed to convince the Malabar mothers that virtue is more precious than rubies, and that all things that they can desire are

Malabar mothers that virtue is more precious than rubies, and that all things that they can desire are not to be compared to it.

58. It will be seen, upon reference to the Appendix, that out of the entire number of emigrant children now under instruction, only about 15 per cent. are girls.

59. Adverting to the Immigration Report of last year, it will be found that the estimated Indian female population then amounted to 72,798. This enormous element of our population, placed against the 200 girls at present under any kind of instruction whatever, is a very startling and unsatisfactory fact, and augurs but poorly for the moral and intellectual qualifications of those from whom thousands must eventually derive their existence, and under whose culture the next generation must be reared.

60. A scheme projected upon a plan as extensive as that which seeks to secure for the labourers on

60. A scheme projected upon a plan as extensive as that which seeks to secure for the labourers on each sugar estate suitable medical attendance would not exceed the limits which might be prescribed for educational operations. It is to be hoped that public interest on behalf of the Coolie settlers when once kindled will spread, and that the time may not be far distant when every Indian child may at

least have the ordinary means of instruction placed within its reach.

61. To eradicate evils and to develop virtues, to influence the heart and discipline the mind, are not the work of a day. Each age and each country has assigned to it its tasks and its responsibilities, and Mauritius is not exempt. Philanthrophy demands thus much at our hands, and the State asks no more.

62. Promises have been made by certain planters to establish "Half-Time Schools," and I have

good reasons to hope that in the course of a few years no well-regulated estate will be without one.

63. For the factory children of the mother country, philanthropy has stepped in, and Great Britain is spared the stigma of being guilty of classifying humanity with the raw material of her looms—a noble example, which has been copied at the Arsenal estate, where every child employed by the proprietor is expected to attend school for three hours daily, and before his physical energies shall have become impaired by the toil of the field and the mill. The school to which allusion is made is opened during five mornings of the week; business commences at 7 A.M. and closes at 10 o'clock.

64. In a commercial point of view, a more animated scene can scarcely be conceived than that where children in groups of from 20 to 30 are seen cleaning the cane fields of weeds, and preparing for the ingathering of the staple produce of the Colony, whilst in a philanthropic aspect what more saddening than the reflection that, beyond the impulses developed by nature, these unfortunate children know absolutely nothing? To them morality is a myth: their sense of right and wrong, the measure of punishment which may await them upon the detection of guilt. To those silent influences, emanating from a higher nature, which wean mankind from vice and commend to him virtue, they are utter strangers.

65. Undoubtedly, in social ethics, the first great problem to be solved here is, how best to educate the teeming Indian population in the principles of loyalty, morality, and good citizenship? Already examples are not wanting among them to show that they are equally susceptible, when suitable opportunities are afforded, of becoming, both morally and intellectually, inferior to none of the varied races comprised in the population of Mauritius.

66. A few words expressive of my deep obligations to your Excellency for the favourable consideration which you have been pleased to accord to the various educational suggestions I have had the honour to submit.—to the members of the Council of Education generally, and more particularly to

the honour to submit,—to the members of the Council of Education generally, and more particularly to the Schools' Committee, for their advice and co-operation, will, I hope, be deemed neither inappropriate, nor, I trust, an unacceptable conclusion to the present report.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. Comber Browne,

Superintendent of Government Schools, and
Inspector of Schools established under Ordinance 6 of 1856.

Schools' Office, 31st December 1865.

Enclosure 5 in No. 18.

PROCUREUR GENERAL'S REPORT-PRISONS.

Encl. 5 in No. 18.

During the year 1865 the prisons in the Colony continued, as formerly, to consist of a central prison in Port Louis, and a local one in each district, all being Government establishments, each managed by a Government officer, who is assisted and controlled by a committee. 18090.

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The prisons of Port Louis contain at the same time the only prison in the Colony for felons, from all parts of the Island; and the local gaol for prisoners of every other description (except vagrants) sentenced by the judges of the Supreme Court, and the magistrates of the district of Port Louis. It is also a house of detention for prisoners awaiting trial.

There is a separate ward for each class of prisoners, and the several classes are kept as distinct from each other as the nature of the buildings and the position of the work-yards will allow.

The following are the chief statistics of the Port Louis prisons for the year 1865:-

1.	The number of prisoners remaining on 31st Decemb			-	-	534
	Entered prison during the year 1865	•	-	- 000	-	5,144
	Total number on prison books in 1865		-			5,678
	Number of prisoners who left prison during 1865	-	•		. +	5,085
	Remaining on prison books on 31st December 1865	-	-	-	-	593

- 2. There were 2,879 fewer committals to prison in 1865 than in 1864, or 35.88 per cent.
- 3. The following is a statement of the several countries to which the prisoners committed

belonged					
English -	-	-	227	Portuguese	- 2
Irish -	-	-	124	Malays	- 2
Scotch -		-	72	Swedes	- 18
Prussian -	-	-	6	Norwegians	- 8
Dutch -	-		7	Austrians	- 4
French -	-	-	72	Arabians	- 4
American -		-	27	Creoles of Mauritius -	- 904
German -	-	-	13	Madagascar	- 47
Hanoverian	-		2	Mozambique	- • 40
Peruvian -		1 1 m	3	Chinese	- 32
New Brunswicke	rs		1	West Indians -	- 15
Bermudians -		-	1	Natives of Bengal Presidency	- 2,085
Canadians	- /	-	2	Natives of Bombay Presidence	y 151
Finlanders -	-	-	1	Natives of Madras Presidency	- 1,211
Belgians	-		1		
Jamaica -		-	2	Total -	- 5,144

From this statement some idea may be formed of the difficulty there is in maintaining order and discipline in the prison. The numerous and great differences among the prisoners with regard to religion, language, caste, and nationality render it impossible to carry out a satisfactory system of classification, and throw difficulties in the way of prison discipline which are unknown in Europe.

4. The following table shows the number of prisoners committed, on sentence in 1864 and in 1865, by the Courts whose prisoners were received in the Port Louis prisons, as also the decrease in the committed on a communication of these two vectors.

mittals on a comparison of these two years :-

		trate.			District Courts.			Supreme Court.		y Pri-	Trial.	
			Stipendiary Magistrate.	Police Magistrate.	Merchant Shipping Act.	Civil Side.	Criminal Side.	Civil Side.	Criminal Side.	Naval and Military soners.	Remanded for Tri	Torar.
1864		-	2,080	3,048	102	62	2,207	54	116	15	339	8,023
1865		-	192	2,720	90	50	1,709	23	97	3	260	5,144
Decre	ase	-	1,888	328	12	12	498	31	19	12	79	2,879

It will be perceived that there was a decrease in the number of committals of every class of prisoners during the year 1865 as compared with 1864; and the subjoined statement shows the proportion of the decrease in each class.

The committals	by the Stipendiary Mag	istrate's Court	were reduced	_	90.77 p	er cent.
Do.	by the Police Magistrate	9 -	-		10.76	do.
Do.	by Marine Magistrate			-	11.76	do.
Do.		civil side		-	19.35	do.
10.	by District Magistrate	criminal side		-	22.51	do.
Do.		civil side	-	-	57.40	do.
D0.	by Supreme Court	criminal side		-	16.37	do.
Do.	by Courts-martial		-	-	80.00	do.
Do.	by remanding for trial			-	23.30	do.

The great change on the first head arises from the greater number of prisoners condemned by the stipendiary magistrate having been transferred to a separate vagrant prison during the year 1864.

other items show an actual diminution in the number of convicted offenders, as to which the report on MAURITIUS. crimes contains some explanations.

5. The committals by the police magistrate were fewer in 1865 by 328 than in 1864 (the decrease

being 10.76 per cent.), but they exceeded considerably those of 1863.

The following is a return of the committals of the same class of offenders-namely, for drunkenness, disorder, and contravention of municipal regulation within the boundaries of the town—since 1859:-

1859	-	-	2,144	1863	-	-	1,800
1860	-	-	2,629	1864		-	3,048
1861		-	3,375	1865	14	_	2,720
1862	-	-	2,365				

The diminution during 1865 may, perhaps, be in part accounted for by the fact of the police magistrate's court having been for six months under acting magistrates, who imposed fines of much lower amounts than those imposed by the titular magistrate. The consequence was, that of the persons sentenced in 1865 for police offences a larger proportion paid their fines and escaped imprisonment than in 1864.

This explanation, however, will not account for the fluctuations in the number of this class of prisoners during the last five years, which it has been found impossible to explain.

6. The committals for offences by seamen under the Merchant Shipping Acts were as follows:—

1859			155	1863		82
1860		-	172	1864		102
1861		-	172	1865	-	90
1862	_	-	159			

These numbers show a reduction of 12 in the committals in 1865, as compared with 1864. Although the committals under this head are eight more than those in 1863, yet they are considerably fewer than during the four years preceding 1863.
7. The committals of fraudulent debtors were nine less in 1865, or a decrease of 19.35 per cent.

The committals of this class since 1859 were as follows:-

1859	-		39	1863	-	-	103
1860			71	1864	-	- 1	59
1861	-	-	101	1865	-	-	50
1862		-	103				

The marked diminution in the number of these prisoners during the last two years is to be attributed to a circular written by me to the district magistrates in 1864, pointing out that the imprisonments on this head had been imposed with a severity not intended by the law. The magistrates have in consequence adopted a more lenient practice, and a reduction in the number of committals has followed.

8. The following is a return of the committals by the junior district magistrate, i.e. on the criminal side of the District Court of Port Louis, as also the more serious offences for which the committals were made, since 1859:-

Year.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Larceny	914	1,157	1,224	1,316	1,292	1,498	1,232
Petty assault	407	264	248	311	291	215	210
Licence contravention	107	74	49	40	31	36	14
In possession of gaudia and opium -	43	43	23	51	42	85	44
Receiving stolen goods	12	4	13	11	15	21	15
Adultery	2	10	14	20	6	10	7
Enticing away married women -	6	12	6	7	2	4	_
Other petty offences	316	288	132	179	429	338	187
Totals	1,807	1,832	1,737	1,946	2,108	2,207	1,709

There is a reduction of 498 in the committals from this Court, as compared with 1864, or 22.5 per

It will be perceived that the committals in 1865 were fewer than they were in any of the previous years referred to.

The reduction in 1865, as compared with 1864, is spread over all the items of the table, but it is smallest in regard to larcenies, the total reduction being 22.51 per cent., while on larcenies it is only 17.75 per cent. Still the larcenies in 1865 closely approximated those in 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, those in 1865 having been unsually numerous.

On the other hand, it will be seen from the following table that the number of convictions for larceny were, in proportion to the total convictions, higher in 1865 than in any of the six years immediately preceding.

In 1859 the committals for larceny were 50.58 per cent. of the total.

29	1860	1	"	63.15	99
	1861		,,	70.46	99
	1862		33	67.62	22
	1863		"	61.29	99
	1864			67.85	-
11	1865		"	72.08	"
77	2000		23	12 00	22

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9. There has been a slight decrease in the number of juvenile offenders committed during the year, as compared with 1864: thus, in 1864 their average number was 15; in 1865, 11. The highest number locked up was 18, the lowest was 7.

This reduction is to be attributed to the removal of the vagrant class, among which many boys were

included.

A large proportion of these boys are almost constant inmates of the establishment, and consequently a burthen on the public, with very little prospect of amendment, owing chiefly to the shortness of their sentences, and to their not being under reformatory discipline. There is but little prospect of their improvement until the law shall allow of their being kept in a reformatory for a lengthened period, say

An institution of this kind has recently been commenced, and it is hoped that in the course of 1866

it will be in full function, with the necessary alterations in the law.

10. The number of committals for debt was as follows:-

1862	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
1863	-	-	-	- 17	-	-	22
1864			-			-	54
1865		100	- 34	-	-	-	23

The reduction here is 31 in all, or 57.40 per cent. as compared with 1864.

11. The numbers who occupied the Detention House since 1862 were as follows:-

1862	-	17	-		-	-	69
1863				-	-	-	189
1864	-	-	-	-	-	-	339
1865		-	-		1 - A -	-	260

These numbers show a reduction of 79, or 23.30 per cent. as compared with 1864,—the decrease to be attributed to there not having been so many large bands of burglars committed for trial in 1865 as in 1864.

12. The statistics in the criminal cases which amount to felonies will be found in the chapter on

Crime. 13. Of naval and military prisoners under sentences of courts-martial, there were committed-

In	1862	-		-	-	- "	-	11
	1863	-	_	-	-	-	-	10
	1864	_	11 5 4	-		-	-	15
	1865	_	-	-	_	-	-	3

Military prisoners are only sent to this gaol when there is not sufficient accommodation for them in the military prisons, when they are discharged from the service with ignominy, or when they are sentenced to penal servitude.

Naval prisoners are those sent from ships of the Royal Navy when in the harbour of Port Louis. 14. The highest number of prisoners locked up on any one night during the year was 659; the lowest

15. The average daily locked up for the year was 562.

The following is the average lock-up for the last seven years, viz.:-

0	O						
1859	-	-	467	1863	-		720
1860			584	1864	-	-	682
1861		7 m	714	1865	-	-	562
1869		The same of	698				

The accommodation estimated for the prisons, under a contemplated improvement in the arrangement of the cells (not yet carried out), is only 324. The above table shows that the average numbers locked up of late years considerably exceed the number for which there is sufficient space in the gaol.

16. The number of prisoners sent to the Civil Hospital for treatment in 1865 was 255, or 4.49 per cent. of the total number on the prison books. The per-centage in 1864 was 3.16, thus showing an

cent. of the total number on the prison books. increase of 1.33 in the numbers sent to hospital.

The daily average of attendance at the prison surgery, including those sent to hospital, was 11.54 persons, or 2.05 per cent. on the average lock-up. The average attendance in 1863 was 11.78, or 1.63 per cent. of average daily lock-up.

```
1864 ,, 17.69, or 2.59
1865 ,, 11.54, or 2.05
99
                                                                                                    99
```

The per-centage of sick sent to hospital was-

In	1863	12	-	-		- 10		2.71
**	1864		1	-				3.16
	1865	-	-	-	1 - 100	-	-	4.49

The admissions to hospital are exclusive of trifling cases of sickness treated in the prison.

17. The deaths were 23, or 41 per cent. of the total number on the prison books, being an increase of .02 per cent. as compared with 1864.

The numbers of each class of prisoners who died were:-

Felons -	1				-	10
Misdemeanants		-		-	-	7
Police Court		- 15)-	-	-	4
Debtors -	-		-		-	1
Awaiting trial	-	-	-	-	-	1
						93

A comparison of those numbers with the periods of imprisonment of the deceased, shows, as in MAURITIUS former years, that it is among the prisoners recently arrived that the mortality chiefly occurs, in consequence, evidently, of the poor physical condition in which they arrive. Thus the deaths were,

		1 0				4			,	-
Of those u	nd	ler 14 day	s' imp	risonme	ent -	-			3	
More than	1	4 days but	t less t	than 1 r	nonth	_			3	
More than	1	month bu	t less	than 3	months	-			6	
,,	3	months	,,	6	,,	-			1	
,,	6	,,,	"	12	,,,	-	-		1	
99		year	99	2	years	-	-	1	7	
99	2	years	22	3	99	-			2	
					-		-	-		
					Total	1		. :	23	

18. There were 10 men executed during the year 1865, against 3 in 1864. All of these executions

were for murder, except one, which was for attempt at murder.

19. The punishments for prison offences are shown by the following comparative statement. They were solitary confinement, curtailing of rations, wearing chains, and floggings, viz.:-

							other	tary and Punish- nents.	Flogging.
1859		4		-		-	-	13	0
1860	_		-		-		-	37	3
1861 -		-		-		-	_	45	4
1862	-		-		-		50 m	77	14
1863		-		+		_	-	151	8
1864	-		-		-		- 9	2,086	17
1865		-		-		-		,012	51

The number of punishments awarded, though fewer in 1865 than in 1864, is still high—much higher than it would be in a properly constructed and well-governed gaol. It is, however, impossible to carry out the regulations in these prisons without the imposition of frequent, though light, punishments, owing to the temptation to evade, and opportunities the prisons have of infringing the regulations, temptations they cannot resist, and opportunities they avail themselves of when they can.

During the year several minor rules and regulations for the better discipline of the prisoners at work inside the walls were enforced, and it was for breaches of such rules that many of the punishments were imposed. The punishments on this account will no doubt decrease in number as the prisoners better understand the necessity for conforming to prison rule. A considerable number of these punishments were also imposed for idling or refusal to work, offences common to all prisoners.

The facilities with which forbidden articles of food, drink, and tobacco are obtained also increase the number of punishments these articles being introduced in a way to haffle the care of the prison

the number of punishments, these articles being introduced in a way to baffle the care of the prison officers.

The great number of floggings in 1865 is to be attributed to the fact of two large bands of felons (19 in one and 14 in the other), and a smaller one of misdemeanants, having escaped from and used violence to the guards supervising them at out-door labour. Nearly all of these prisoners were recaptured within a short space of time, and sentenced by the committee to be flogged.
20. No escapes were effected from within the prison during the year. There were

There were 77 escapes from

out-door working parties, being five less than the number who escaped in 1864.

The following is a statement of escapes annually since 1859, viz. :-

In	1859	-		-	21	In	1863	-		-	104
99	1860	-	-	-	44	,,,	1864	-	- 10	-	82
22	1861	-	-0.00	-	51	22	1865	-		-	77
44	1862	-		-	93	The state					

In consequence of the escapes of the felons, it was decided that none of that class should in future be sent to out-door labour. A marked reduction in the number of escapes has already followed this decision, and it is expected that escapes will be very much fewer in consequence.

21. The number of escaped prisoners recaptured and brought back is shown by the following, viz.:

```
In 1859
                                     5 brought back.
,, 1860
                                    20
  1861
                                    33
  1862
                                    54
99
                                              99
  1863
                                 -
                                    41
                                              99
   1864
                                    43
"
                                              29
  1865
                                              99
```

22. During the year 403 fines, amounting to 339l. 6s. 8d., were paid at the prison for prisoners, on account of the Municipal Corporation and of the Colonial Government.

23. The number of visits to convicted prisoners was 945; the number of visitors to them was 1,137.
24. The females prison, though not crowded to excess, as in 1864, had still more prisoners confined in it than the buildings and yard are calculated for:—

The accommodation is sufficient for 25 only. There has not been the same improvement on this side of the prison as on the males' side as respects discipline. That improvement is necessary cannot be denied, but it is not to be expected with the present buildings and work-yard classification, being impossible in such a limited space. The woman confined for some simple contravention of municipal

MAURITIUS. regulations—the girl on account of some quarrel, are in contact with the murderess, the prostitute, the drunkard, and the thief. All, convicted and unconvicted, mix daily together. There is no separate place even for female debtors. When such are in prison, they are confined in the male debtors ward, under (of course) a sub-matron. Neither are there proper means for keeping in order refractory female prisoners. On every occasion of such misconduct the female has to be removed to one of the cells for disciplinary punishment (all of which are in the ward for female prisoners), the matron keeping the key of the cell. It frequently happens that these refractories tear their clothes off, and become so violent as to require great force to convey them to the punishment cells, where they arrive nearly naked, sometimes entirely so, and exposed to the gaze of the male prisoners.

As there is not room in the female ward for the erection of a punishment cell, there are not at

present means for remedying the evil thus noticed.

25. The following shows the amount and nature of remunerative and profitable labour performed by prisoners during the year, viz.:

REMUNERATIVE.			
	£	S.	d.
Making nets	38	13	$0\frac{3}{4}$
Making mats and mattresses	5	14	6
Tailors' work	3	14	4
Shoemakers' work	34	19	5
Basket making	1	0	6
Picking oakum	104	0	0
Carpenters' work	0	4	8
Macadam broken and sold	65	3	0
Female prisoners' work—sewing, &c	9	12	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Out-door labour	647	19	7
Total for remunerative labour	911	1	114
Labour supplied for Public Works, but not paid for:			
14,935 days' labour supplied to Local Board of			
Health of Port Louis, valued at 6d. per day - 50,223 days' labour supplied to the Surveyor	373	7	6
General's Department, at 6d. per day	1,255	11	6
Total value of prisoners' labour, exclusive of that required for prison purposes	2,540	0	11/4
		NA SERVICE AND	ALC: NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.

26. The reimbursement in aid of the expenses incurred by Government amounted in all to 966l. 11s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. Beside this sum, there is due by the Municipal Corporation the sum of 60l. 3s. 8d. for work done for it inside the prisons, which sum will be ultimately recovered and paid into the

Colonial Treasury in aid of expenses incurred.

27. During the year 1865, the attention of the Prison Department was directed to the question of the best kind of non-remunerative labour to be used either as a partial substitute for the kinds of work above noticed, or in addition thereto; and a system of shot drill was commenced and carried out to a considerable extent, especially among the felon class, on their being kept within the prison, as

already mentioned.

The irksomeness of this employment, as compared with work in bands out of doors, has been strongly felt by the prisoners. The shot drill, with the silence which has been enforced among the prisoners during it, and the increased strictness of prison discipline, has, it is believed, gone far to make imprisonment extremely distasteful; and as the reins of discipline are being tightened by degrees, and more regularity and system is being enforced, this satisfactory result is likely to be increased.

The diminution in the number of prisoners already noticed may be attributable in part to these

All these improvements are the work of Mr. Dempsey, the very able Inspector of Prisons, whose

indefatigable and most intelligent performance of his duties entitles him to high praise.

The subordinate officers have also performed their duties in a satisfactory manner during the year. Two of them—Mr. Brant, the assistant keeper, and Mr. Chadwick, one of the turnkeys—deserve

special mention for their efficiency.

28. In conclusion, I would take leave to refer to the Blue Book Report of last year on the Port Louis prison for a statement of its unfitness for a thorough system of penitentiary discipline. Happily, some of the evils which were pointed out in that and previous Reports have been diminished. by the transfer of nearly all prisoners of the vagrant class; while the others it is believed will be abated on the removal of the juvenile offenders to the reformatory recently instituted. Ere long, too, the felon prison at Rivière du Rempart will be fit to receive the worst class of offenders. The prison of Port Louis will then be limited to offenders of the misdemeanant class, to those confined for police offences and for debt, and to prisoners committed for trial, for which purposes it will probably be found sufficient.

Chambers, 21st July 1866.

W. G. DICKSON, (Signed) Procureur and Advocate General, Chairman of Prison Committee, Port Louis.

Enclosure 6 in No. 18.

MAURITIUS.

Encl. 6 in

INSPECTOR GENERAL of POLICE to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR, Grand River, N.W., Vagrant Depôt, 10th March 1866. I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying report of the Vagrant Depôt, including

Reformatory and Hospital, for the year ending 21st February 1866.

In comparing this report with that of last year, it will be found that although the total decrease this year in the number of vagrants received is triffing—only 122—yet the decrease from Port Louis is very considerable, it being upwards of 1,200, thus leading to the conviction that vagrancy has met with a

decided check here.

The punishments awarded by the visiting magistrate this year far exceed those of last, owing doubtless, in a great measure, to the prisoners received being in many instances released criminals, who, unwilling to return to the estates, are arrested as vagrants, sent to the depôt, where they refuse to work, &c., and as a matter of course punishment follows.

The number of sick in this return is also large. This does not appear to be attributable to any

defects of a sanitary nature, but principally to the fact that many of the prisoners when admitted are, through debility, unfit for hard labour, and consequently come under the medical officer's hands almost

at once.

The Reformatory for the boys was established here (pro tem.) on the 24th of August 1865; since then 273 boys have passed through it. They are instructed in reading and writing from 10 to 12 daily; for the remainder of the day they are employed at some sort of work or other in either the depôt or on the public works. The boys benefit, no doubt, more or less from the instruction given them, but much can scarcely be expected in this way, their periods of imprisonment being generally of too short duration to admit of deep impression. Their conduct has been good.

The buildings connected with the depôt are still in an unfinished state, and there seems to be little or nothing doing by way of completion at present. There is one circumstance operating seriously against discipline, which I beg you will specially bring under the notice of his Excellency the Governor. It would appear by paragraph 18 of the depôt regulations that the medical officer is at liberty to make his daily visit any time before 10 a.m. If this be a correct interpretation of that paragraph, I would

his daily visit any time before 10 a.m. If this be a correct interpretation of that paragraph, I would strongly urge its reconsideration, because if the medical officer avails himself of this wide latitude given him, which he seems disposed to do, no regular systematic performance of the duties can be carried out.

I would suggest that the hour be definitely fixed, and that it be not later than 8 a.m.; occasional interruptions would take place, no doubt, from sudden calls elsewhere on the medical officer, but this

cannot be helped.

If any arrangement could be made whereby the duties of the depôt might be assigned to the medical officer in charge of the Lunatic Asylum, it would be, I feel sure, of much advantage.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) P. MACDONALD,
Acting Inspector General of Police.

P.S.—The branch hospital attached to the depôt has afforded great relief to the depôt, and also to the Civil Hospital, especially to the latter during its crowded state this season.

(Signed)

Enclosure 7 in No. 18.

Encl. 7 in No. 18.

REPORT of the PROCUREUR GENERAL ON CRIME.

The annexed table contains a comparison of the crimes prosecuted before the Judges of the Supreme Court and a jury during 1865 and the preceding four years.

2. It shows a considerable diminution in the number of cases (66) brought to trial during 1865, as compared with those (72) in 1864, and an increase of only two over the cases (64) in 1863. A still more marked diminution in the number of persons prosecuted appears in 1865, and places that year in a favourable light as compared with either 1863 or 1864; thus:—

The Company of the Co	1863.	1864.	1865.
Number of cases prosecuted - Number of persons prosecuted - Number of persons prosecuted, as]	64 199	72 196	66 135
compared with number of cases -	3,109	2,335	2,015

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MAURITIUS.

3. The diminution in the number both of prosecutions and of persons prosecuted in 1865 is almost entirely applicable to cases of larceny with violence, consisting of burglaries (usually committed by armed gangs) and of highway robberies. The numbers of such cases were as follows:—

	180	63.	18	64.	18	65.
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
Larcenies by night, with violence and breaking } Larcenies on highway with violence	16 2	106	19 5	111 26	7 3	24 18
TOTAL -	18	109	24	137	10	42

4. There is every reason to believe that the diminution which these numbers indicate in the class of crimes referred to is real. This satisfactory result is attributable to the efficacy of the measures taken in 1864 for their repression, and to the safe keeping in prison of a large number of the most dangerous criminals of the predatory class. The number of these offences, however, is still great, and above what it was in 1861 or 1862.

5. On the other hand, the list for 1865 is swelled by an unusual number of aggravated larcenies, unaccompanied by violence, viz., larcenies by servants from their masters, and by offenders who had been repeatedly convicted before; thus:—

	18	61.		62.	18	63.	18	64.	18	65.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases,	Persons.	
Larcenies as above -	1	1	1	3	2	3	2	2	8	12	

6. In crimes of violence, including murder, manslaughter, and aggravated assaults, the cases in 1865 were rather below the average number, having been one more than in 1864, one fewer than in 1861 and 1862, and five fewer than in 1863. But the number of persons tried for these offences in 1865 exceeded that of any of the four previous years, except 1863; thus:-

	18	61.	18	62.	18	63	18	64.	18	65.
	Cases.	Persons.								
Murders and attempts at murder	8	13	10	15	9	20	10	13	14	33
Manslaughter	5	6	6	6	5	19	1	- 1	2	2
Wounds and blows causing deaths -	'7	7	2	2	5	11	4	4	3	5
Wounds and blows causing sick- ness for more than 20 days -}	-	-	2	2	5	9	3	6	-	_
TOTAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	20	26	20	25	24	59	18	24	19	40

7. The unusual number of offenders of this class in 1865 arose from there having been in one case 13 men tried for and convicted of the murder of their master when overseeing them at work in the field. In 1863, when there was also a great number of persons tried, compared with the number of cases, a gang of nine prisoners was tried for murder and burglary, and were convicted only of the smaller offence.

8. While, however, crimes of violence generally were rather on the decline in 1865, the murders, both

in regard to the number of cases and of persons concerned, were unprecedentedly numerous.

9. These heinous crimes were almost entirely confined to the Indian population, and, with the exception of the murder by a band of labourers already mentioned—which was a rebellion against a strict but apparently not unjust master—they were prompted by jealousy or other kindred feelings in regard

10. The alarming number of crimes which spring from motives of this kind has been the subject of a full report by me, in which the indifference of the Indian population to death by hanging was dwelt upon. It is there mentioned, that while the suicides by Indians during the year 1864, and first 10 months of 1865, were 95 in number, no fewer than 86 of these were by hanging.

11. The indifference to a mode of death so much loathed by most Europeans is explained in the MAURITIUS. report referred to on the ground that most of the Indian races believe in the transmigration of the soul, incidental to which is a notion that if one dies tranquilly, without any severing of one part of the body from another, the passage of the soul after death into another animal takes place easily; whereas if any member, and especially the head, is separated, the transmigration is impeded, and the disunited portions of the body may search for each other for hundreds of years in another world.

12. As illustrative of this feeling, it is mentioned in the report referred to that cases have repeatedly occurred in which prisoners condemned to long imprisonment have expressed their desire to be hung, rather than complete their sentence; and in one very striking case, which goes to swell the list of 1865, an Indian tried for murder, and found guilty only of manslaughter, first endeavoured ineffectually to commit suicide in prison, and soon afterwards assaulted dangerously and attempted to murder one

of the prison guards, with the avowed desire of being hung.

13. It is thus apparent that the mode of execution followed in most parts of Her Majesty's dominions is not effectual for checking murders by the Indian population, while, on the other hand, their religious belief inspires them with a horror for decapitation.

14. Accordingly, I have in the report above noticed urged the substitution of the latter punishment (being carried out by a guillotine) for hanging, in cases of Indians condemned to death; and that view

has been concurred in by the Judges of the Supreme Court.

15. It is very desirable that the change should be made, in order to restrain, if possible, the Indians, who form now by far the largest class in the Colony, from those murders which are not only numerous,

but are increasing in number among them.

16. The change, it may be added, would probably be in accordance, rather than otherwise, with the feelings of the majority of jurors, both on account of their French extraction, and because decapitation was till a few years ago (1851) the mode of carrying out sentences of death in the Colony.

With record to other crimes, there was a diminution in 1865 are compared with 1864 in embarded.

17. With regard to other crimes, there was a diminution in 1865 as compared with 1864 in embezzlement, which is attributable to the frauds on the Savings Bank having occurred in the year last mentioned; on the other hand, forgeries have been more numerous in 1865 than in any of the four preceding

18	61.	18	62.	18	63.	186	64.	18	65.
Cases.	Persons.								
4	8	3	3	4	3	5	6	6	10

18, No reason can be stated for this change.

19. Cases of poisoning with a view to larceny have also been on the increase; thus:-

18	61.	18	62.	18	63.	18	64.	180	65.
Cases.	Persons.								
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	1	3	7

20. All of these were poisoning by seeds of Datura stramonii, a plant very common in the Colony, and which produces intoxication, and even temporary insanity. The punishments inflicted in 1865 have had a salutary effect in checking this crime.

21. A larger number of cases of arson also occurred in 1865, although fewer than in the two preceding years :-

180	61.	180	62.	18	63.	18	64.	18	65.
Cases.	Persons.								
6	6	6	6	8	11.	9	11	7	7

22. Nearly all these cases were of Indians charged with setting fire to the huts of others of their class with whom they had had disputes, usually with regard to women. The same motive, however, which prompts to this crime on the one hand, produces false accusations of it on the other. It has thus repeatedly happened that when the hut of an Indian has been burnt from some accidental cause, the occupant, either believing that the fire had been set by one who had an enmity to him, or wishing to

profit by the fire to gratify his own feelings of revenge, has made up a case of arson against another of his class. Cases of this kind are frequently dismissed by the magistrates, or are withdrawn from trial by me, while juries acquit in a large proportion of the cases tried, suspecting, sometimes justly, that the case is concocted.

23. The statistics given above are upon the data of the crimes prosecuted before the Supreme Court and committals by magistrates for trial after preliminary inquiry; as will be afterwards noticed, a considerable proportion of the persons so tried have been acquitted, and some of the acquittals no doubt occurred when the accused was innocent. By far the larger proportion of acquittals is attributable to the uncertainty of trial by jury in a country where that institution is but little beyond its infancy, having only been introduced in the year 1850.

24. The proportion of persons acquitted to persons tried is as follows:-

1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	
•227	.323	•317	•331	-288	

25. In comparing these numbers with the acquittals in countries such as England, where there is no public presecutor, it must be borne in mind, that while in such countries every case of felony for which a true bill is found has to be tried, the public prosecutor in Mauritius takes care to present for trial only those cases in which he is satisfied that the guilt of the accused can be satisfactorily proved. The organization of the public prosecutor's office also tends to secure a larger proportion of convictions than would probably occur if the cases were prosecuted by private parties.

26. Making due allowance for these considerations, it is thought that the proportion of acquittals in

this Colony is too great.

27. An Ordinance is in course of preparation for improving the making up of the Jury List, by which it is hoped the frequent presence of talesmen on the jury under the present law will be prevented. An Ordinance based upon the principles of the laws of Scotland and of France has also been passed recently for admitting children as witnesses in cases of violence to themselves, provided they are sufficiently intelligent to make a rational statement on the subject, although they may not be familiar with the nature of an oath.

28. It is hoped that these measures will prevent justice from being defeated so often as at

present.

29. Another consideration with reference to the foregoing statistics is, that a larger proportion of

crimes escape detection and punishment here than in the mother country.

30. This is the case more especially with regard to murders, for there is often the strongest suspicion that death occurred from foul play; but the rapid decomposition of the human body in a hot and, generally speaking, a moist climate, tends to efface the traces of crime. Frequently, too, the lower classes, and even other persons, impede rather than assist the detective police.

31. The frequency of suicides also among the Indians leads sometimes to crimes of violence escaping

detection, under the pretence that the deceased destroyed himself.

32. The force of these observations will be seen from the fact that in 1865 there were, in addition to the cases tried, 14 cases of death believed to have been caused by foul play; but in none of these

was the proof sufficient to bring the case to trial.

33. Another class of crimes which it is believed sometimes escape detection is arson. One cause of this has already been mentioned (paragraph 22). Some fires also, especially of late, have occurred under circumstances of strong suspicion that they were committed to defraud the Insurance Companies, but, owing to the ingenuity with which the plots have been arranged, no case of this kind has yet been brought to justice.

34. In thus noticing the crimes that escape detection I have no intention to cast any reproach on the detective police. On the contrary, it is but just to the force that I should add that it is extremely efficient, and that it affords as full protection to life and property as any police force could do in a country where the population consists of numerous races, differing in religion, habits, and language

from each other.

W. G. DICKSON, (Signed)

Chambers, 18th July 1866.

Procureur and Advocate General.

			186	61.	8			186	52.				186	53.				18	64.		-		18	65.	
		ro- itions.	acquitted.	convicted	onvicted		ro- tions.	cquitted.	convicted	onvicted ice than		Pro- itions.	acquitted.	onvicted	onvicted nee than		Pro-	equitted.	convicted	nvicted ce than		Pro-	acquitted.	convicted	nvicted se than
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons	Ne. of Per sons cas charged.	No. of Persons convicted of lesser offence than charged.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted	No. of Persons c as charged.	No. of Persons convicted of lesser offence than charged.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons a	No. of Persons convicted as charged.	No. of Persons convicted of lesser offence than charged.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted	No. of Persons cc as charged.	No. of Persons convicted of lesser offence than charged.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons ac	No. of Persons co as charged.	No. of Persons convicted of lesser offence than
Crimes against Individuals.											Disease and Diseas		1							1	-				
Murder, and attempt to murder Manslaughter Wounds and blows causing death, but without	8 5	13 6	2 2	1 3	10 1	10 6	15 6	.4 2	4 2	7 2	9 5	20 19	6 -	2 1	12 18	10 1	13	5	5 -	3 -	14 2	33 2	1 -	*27†	5‡ -
intention to kill Wounds and blows causing sickness of more	7	7	1	6	-	2	2	1	1	-	5	11	-	9	2	4	4	1	3	-	3	5	-	5	
than 20 days Involuntary homicide from carelessness Poisoning (not fatal) for purposes of larceny	=	-		-	= = :	2 -	2 -	=	2 -	=	5 -	9	6 -	3 -		3 - 1	6 - 1	2 -	4 - 1	V=1	1 3	1 7	1 4	- - 3	-
Rape, and attempt, &c Bigamy Exposing infant	2 -	3 -	2 -	1 -	1 - 1	2 -	2 -	1 -	1 -	-	4 -	8 -	2 -	6 -		2 1 -	3 1	1	2 -	-	2 -	2 -	1	1 -	-
Unnatural crimes Perjury and subornation Placing stones on railway	2 -	3 -	1 -	2 -	=	2 1 -	2 2 -	1 -	1 2		2 1 -	4	2 -	2		2 1 1	2 2 1	1 2	1 -		1 2 -	3 2 -	3 1 -	1	=
Defamation and slander Crimes against Property.	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		-	_	=		=	1	1	-	ī	=
Larceny with violence to persons, with breaking at night	6	24	V.	04			0.1	0																	
Larceny on highway, with violence	1	2	-	24 2 1	=	5 - 1	24 - 3	8 - 1	15 - 2	1 -	16 2 2	106 3 3	38 1 2	67 2 1	1	19 5 2	111 26 2	37 13 -	64 13 2	-	7 3 8	24 18 12	12 4 3	12 14 9	-
Receiving stolen property Embezzlement	1 4	1 8	- 6	1 2	=	1 3	1 3	- 1	1 2	=	- - 4	- 3	- - 1	- 2	=	- 4 5	- 4 6	- 2 1	- 2 5	=	4 1 6	6 1 10	3 - 3	3 1 7	=
Swindling, extortion, &c Malicious damage to property	- 6	6	- - 1	- - 5	=	- 6	- 6	- 3	- 3	Ξ	1 - 8	1 - 11	1 - 4	- - 7	=	2 - 9	2 - 11	- 8	2 - 3	Ξ	- 1 7	- 1 7	- 3	1 4	=
	43	74	15	48	11	41	68	22	36	10	64.	199	63	103	33	72	196	75	108	3	66	135	39	91	5

^{*} Of which 10 were executed.

[†] One individual twice tried for two distinct crimes—one of murder, the other of attempt to murder.

[‡] One individual found insane.

Encl. 8 in No. 18.

Enclosure 8 in No. 18.

PROCUREUR GENERAL'S REPORT ON LEGISLATION.

Several important laws were enacted in the year 1865.

No. 9.

"An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 20 of 1861, and to make Provision for repairing and " extending the Quays in the Harbour of Port Louis."

2. On the institution of the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis in 1850, certain items of the general revenue of the Colony were transferred to the town for its corporate purposes, and among these one half of the quay dues, then leviable on both exports and imports at Port Louis. Shortly afterwards, the export duty having been abolished, the other moiety of the dues, then import only, was transferred to the Corporation.

3. These dues, as their name indicates, were certain duties levied on goods landed at the harbour of Port Louis, their pristine and proper object being to furnish means for keeping up and extending the quays. Accordingly, when the second moiety of them was transferred, it was on the condition that the Corporation should perform these obligations; and the Ordinance making the transfer expressly provided that the Corporation should keep the quays in repair. The duty of extending them, however, was not introduced into the law, apparently on account of its vague nature, and of there being no proper means of enforcing it.

there being no proper means of enforcing it.

4. During the 14 years that followed the transfer, the Corporation, while keeping the quays in repair, never took any measures for their extension, although that was necessary for the greatly increased trade of the port. Among other reasons for their inaction, they pleaded that they could not extend the quays on account of the adjoining land being either Crown or private property, and on except to their having no power to energely or interfere with the harbour.

account of their having no power to encroach or interfere with the harbour.

5. The mercantile body having in vain pressed their interests on the Corporation, at last urged the

Government to deal with the subject in the interests of the community.

6. After frequent but futile efforts on the part of the Government to lead the Corporation to concur in measures for effecting the object desired, the present Ordinance was passed, placing the matter on a footing which the Government and Council considered just to the conflicting interests of the Corporation and the general public.

7. Its provisions are a re-transfer of the quay dues to the Crown; the municipality receiving from the general revenue 9,000l. a year as compensation, and the Government undertaking the duty of both keeping up and extending the quays. At the same time, the control and police of the quays, formerly vested in the Corporation, was transferred to the Government, which was also vested with power to acquire land for the extension of the quays, on payment of proper compensation.

8. At first the partisans of the Municipal Corporation cried out loudly against the measure as a violation of its rights, but the municipal body itself accepted it as a satisfactory settlement of the question, and the Ordinance was passed without any remonstrance on their part.

9. It has been confirmed.

No. 29.

"An Ordinance to amend the Law as to Hospitals and Medical Attendance for Persons under " Contracts of Service."

10. Shortly before the passing of this Ordinance it was ascertained from returns by the stipendiary magistrates that the duty of employers to provide proper medical attendance and hospital accommo-

dation for their labourers was not properly fulfilled.

11. It appeared that on some estates hospital accommodation was either wanting or was quite

12. The estates provided inadequate, while on others the so-called hospital was used for other purposes.

with proper hospitals were rare exceptions.

12. The medical attendance, again, on many estates, each employing several hundreds of labourers, was limited to occasional visits of a practitioner when called in, as he rarely was, considering the average number of sick. In but few instances, even of the largest estates, was the attendance regular, still more rarely was it more frequent than once a week.

13. It also appeared that no proper provision was made for medical attendance on the women and

children of the labourers, although generally these were understood to be under the care of the medical

man who visited the estate.

14. To remedy this state of things an Ordinance was introduced, which, after some modifications in committee, passed the Council.

15. It makes it obligatory on all persons having 30 or more servants in their employment to have

hospital accommodation for them.

16. It then prescribes rules for the hospitals as to site and construction, number of beds in proportion to the labourers engaged, the providing of medicines and hospital attendants, &c., and it requires additional hospital accommodation to be furnished on the outbreak of epidemic disease among the

17. Compliance with these requirements is enforced by penalties (§ 8), and by entitling the servant

to have his engagement broken if the non-compliance continues.

18. Much difficulty had formerly arisen from the unwillingness of the Indians to go to hospitals for treatment; and the Ordinance of 1845 (No. 6) practically frustrated the efforts of masters to make them do so. Indeed, the bad state of the hospital accommodation on estates was often excused on the ground that the men absolutely refused to go to hospital.

19. Both masters and medical men urged that such a state of the law rendered it impossible successfully to treat the labourers, especially in cases of epidemic and contagious disease, while its continuance would frustrate all the good contemplated by the improvements in hospital accommodation.

20. Power has accordingly been conferred on masters, on the written requisition of the medical attendant on the estates, to compel those who are suffering from epidemic or infectious disease to go to hospital. The refusal of labourers to do so in other cases is to be regarded as illegal absence (§ 10).

21. The Ordinance next requires every employer of 30 men or more to have a medical practitioner regularly engaged to attend them; and it fixes the number of visits to be paid by the attendant periodically, in addition to occasional visits when necessary. It also provides for the keeping of regular hospital registers.

22. Proper payment of the attendants is then secured (Arts. 19, 21, 22), and the duty of giving

medical assistance to the wives and children of the labourers is laid on them (§ 20).

23. For securing compliance with the several provisions of the law, inspecting medical officers, paid by and responsible to the Government, are to be appointed, with powers of inquiry and inspection

24. These are the main provisions of a law which was much required, and which, although the draft of it was at first opposed by the planting interest, has been accepted by the Colony generally as a measure of real public benefit. It has been confirmed by Her Majesty.

No. 7.

"An Ordinance to secure the Rights of New Immigrants under Contracts of Service with Job "Contractors, and to extend the Jurisdiction of Stipendiary Magistrates to Claims for Wages " founded on Guarantee."

25. The laws on Indian immigration had been made on the footing of the labourers being engaged directly to the owners of the estate on which they worked. But by degrees a class of middlemen, called job contractors or job planters, sprung up, by whom bands of labourers were engaged for employment on estates of other persons who required labourers beyond the number permanently engaged to them.

26. An industry of this nature is not merely lawful, but is often useful to the regular employers of labour. But it is open to considerable abuses, one of the most important being the want of security to the labourers for their wages, rations, &c., owing to the job planters being almost invariably men

without capital.

27. To provide against the evil, Government had in 1856 issued a circular calling on the stipendiary magistrates not to engage any labourers to job contractors without the guarantee of the owners of the

estate on which the men worked.

28. This action of the Executive, however, was, on the one hand, too strong a measure, as it interfered with the freedom of contracts between persons not within its tutelage, while, on the other hand, it was not strong enough, because it did not provide means for keeping up the security in cases where it was really required.

29. Such interference was not desirable in regard to old immigrants who, having repaid the cost of their introduction by five years' industrial residence in the Colony, had become free to engage themselves to whomsoever they chose, and on whatever terms they could secure for themselves, and whose acquaintance with the Colony usually enabled them to protect their own interests in such matters.

30. But Government interference was necessary on behalf of the new immigrant, who is wisely regarded as under its special protection or tutelage.

31. The present Ordinance accordingly requires that when immigrants of this class are engaged with job contractors, the proprietors of the lands on which they work shall guarantee their wages, rations, &c.

32. It also gives to all servants serving with job-contractors the same lien for their wages, &c., over

the estates on which they work, as is enjoyed by servants engaged to the proprietors.

33. An improved arrangement for the recovery of labourers' wages from the surety completes this Ordinance, the provisions of which are advantageous to a large class of labourers. The Ordinance has been confirmed.

No. 28.

"An Ordinance to declare that Ordinance No. 16 of 1862, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize "Engagements of Indian Immigrants to be made for Five Years, and to declare and " 'amend in certain other respects the Law regarding Indian Immigrants in the Colony,' is still " in force."

34. Owing to an accidental oversight, one of the most important of the laws on Indian immigration (No. 16 of 1862, which authorized five years' engagements to be made with Indian immigrants, and amended in other respects the law on this class of labourers) had not been formally confirmed by Her Majesty within the three years prescribed by the Royal Instructions.

35. The question thus arose, whether the law had lapsed from want of confirmation, or had been kept in force by certain Despatches which the officer administering the Government at the time had received, approving of its provisions without formally confirming it

received, approving of its provisions without formally confirming it.

36. A decision of the Supreme Court of the Colony in the year 1845 was in favour of the latter view. Still it was evidently inexpedient to leave so important a matter in doubt, and the present Ordinance was therefore passed, declaring that the law of 1862 had remained in force, and that all that had been done under it was valid.

37. In considering this question the attention of the Government was called by me to the unsatisfactory position in which the Colony stands regarding the powers of its Legislative Council, owing to

the rules on that important subject not being contained in any public law, but in the Royal Instructions

issued to the Governors of the Colony.

38. On the creation of the Legislative Council, in the year 1825, the Royal Instructions with regard to it were published. Since then a succession of instructions, each repealing the instructions previously issued, have been given to subsequent Governors; but none of these appear to have been published for general information.

39. With one exception the changes which they contained on the original instructions of 1825 were The exception was in the case of the present Governor, whose instructions dispense with the necessity which had previously existed for a local law being confirmed by Her Majesty within three years, the want of which confirmation, or at least of Despatches conveying Her Majesty's pleasure on the law, had previously caused the Ordinances of the Colony to lapse.

40. In order to inform the public of so important an extension of the powers of the Local Legislature, a notice on the subject has been published in the Government Gazette in the month of December 1864.

41. It is considered, however, that a matter so fundamentally important to all questions regarding the validity and effect of the laws of the Colony should not be allowed to remain on its present footing, and that the powers of the Council of Government should be defined in a constitutive law, passed either by Parliament or (what is probably better) by Her Majesty in Council.

"An Ordinance to amend the Law regarding Contracts of Service with liberated Slaves landed in " Mauritius or Seychelles."

42. This law was passed in consequence of the prospect of a considerable number of liberated Africans being landed in the Seychelles Islands by cruizers engaged in suppressing the Slave

43. Under the Royal Order in Council of 7th September 1838 these persons may not be engaged in ordinary service for more than one year, a period insufficient to remunerate their employers for the sums they have to pay Government on their engagements, on account of the cost which the Government incurs on their behalf.

44. Engagements for periods beyond a year had, indeed, been authorized by several Despatches of the Secretary of State; while the younger Africans might be bound as apprentices under the powers conferred by the Order in Council referred to.

45. This state of things led to the passing of the Ordinance No. 18, which has placed liberated slaves on the same footing as Indian immigrants with regard to the periods of engagement and other incidental matters.

46. Provision is also made for conveying to Mauritius any liberated Africans landed at the Seychelles

Islands, and not required by employers there.

47. The Ordinance has been confirmed.

No. 10.

"An Ordinance to amend the Law regarding the Government Savings Bank."

48. Since the creation in 1836 of the only Savings Bank in the Colony, its operations had extended so considerably that the arrangements originally made regarding it were no longer suitable. The present law was passed for removing it from the Colonial Treasury, of which it had previously formed an appendage, and making it a separate department, and for introducing the improvements in matters of detail in the institution which experience recommended. The previous laws on the subject, so far as applicable, were reproduced in the Ordinance, which contains the whole of the local law on the Government Savings Bank.

No. 14.

"An Ordinance to provide for the Distribution of Roman Catholic Parishes for Ecclesiastical " Purposes."

49. The Ordinance No. 20 of 1857 empowers the Bishop of Mauritius to divide the Island into convenient districts as parishes quoad sacra of the Church of England.

50. By the Ordinance No. 14 of 1865 a similar power is conferred on the bishop or other chief ecclesiastic of the Roman Catholic Church in the Colony to constitute districts or parishes quoad sacra in connection with that church.

No. 5.

"An Ordinance to enable the Chief Clerk in the Immigration Department to act in the Absence " of the Protector of Immigrants."

No. 11.

"An Ordinance to provide for the Performance of the Functions of the Civil Commissioner of " Seychelles in case of the Death, Incapacity, or Absence of that Officer."

No. 16.

- "An Ordinance to remove Doubts as to the Legality of certain Acts by the Chief Clerk to the "Master of the Supreme Court, and to make Provision for the Performance of the Duties of the Master in case of Absence."
- 51. These Ordinances were passed in order to provide for the duties of certain important departments being performed in case of absence of the officer entrusted with them. By No. 5 the chief

clerk of the immigration department is enabled to act in place of the Protector of Immigrants. No. 11 MAURITIUS. authorizes the Governor to issue a latent appointment of Civil Commissioner at Seychelles, to be available on the death, incapacity, removal, or absence of that officer. And No. 16 empowers the Governor to appoint a substitute to the Master of the Supreme Court in case of absence.

52. The last-mentioned Ordinance further validates all acts which had been performed by the chief

clerk of the Master, performing the Master's duties in his absence, under a rule of Court of the year 1857, which had authorized him to do so, but which in the opinion of the chief law advisers of the Crown, both in England and in the Colony, was ultra vires of the Court, and therefore illegal.

53. All these Ordinances have been confirmed.

No. 12.

- "An Ordinance to remedy certain Defects in Acts of the Civil Status for the Seychelles Islands, "Dependencies of Mauritius."
- 54. This was an Ordinance of a similar nature. It authorizes the officer of the Civil Status of Seychelles to complete certain entries in the registers of births, deaths, and marriages, which his predecessor had left without proper authentication.

- " An Ordinance to authorize the Governor to appoint Poor Relief Committees, when they shall " not be constituted by way of Election."
- 55. The system of elective Poor Law Boards, which was introduced into the Colony in 1853, beside being unsatisfactory in general, proved a failure in the important respect that the ratepayers often failed to meet and elect a Board.
- 56. Special Ordinances (viz., Ordinances Nos. 9 of 1863, 3 of 1864) had been passed on two occasions in order to meet such cases. Their recurrence rendered it necessary to enact the present Ordinance, authorizing the Government in all cases of a Poor Relief Board not being duly elected to constitute one by nomination. These nominative Boards continue in function until replaced by Boards elected according to the law of 1853.

No. 18.

- "An Ordinance to extend the Powers of Boards of Health to borrow Money on the Security of their Rates."
- 57. Under the previous law (No. 18 of 1866) the Local Boards of Health could only borrow money for construction of permanent works, and "on the outbreak and during the prevalence of epidemic "disease." But such powers could not be exercised in order to provide precautionary measures against the outbreak of such disease, however imminent the danger of its advent might be. The Ordinance No. 18 has extended the powers of the Boards of Health to borrow for the latter purpose.

No. 19.

- "An Ordinance to explain and amend certain Provisions of Ordinances Nos. 10 and 15 of 1864, "regarding the borrowing of Money for the Construction of Railways in the Colony, and the "Investment, by the Commissioners of Currency, of Money in their Hands in Securities of " the Mauritius Government."
- 58. This law was passed in order to clear up a doubt which had been raised by the Secretary of State regarding certain investments which the Currency Commissioners of the Colony had made in debentures of the Mauritius Government.
- 59. It has placed these securities on a proper footing, and provided a sinking fund in order to meet any eventual diminution in their value.

No. 3.

- "An Ordinance to increase the Number of Ushers of the Supreme Court, and to amend the Law " as to their Appointment and Discipline."
- 60. Owing to increase in the business of the ushers (Anglice bailiffs) of the Supreme Court, it was found necessary to authorize their increase from 12 to 18. At the same time it was thought desirable to vest the Judges with the right of presentation to an office in the proper performance of the duties of which they have an important public interest. The Ordinance No. 3 secures these objects, and defines the powers of the Court as to measures for securing discipling among the unbox. defines the powers of the Court as to measures for securing discipline among the ushers.

No. 21.

- "An Ordinance to constitute the Protestant Benevolent Institution into a Corporation."
- 61. This was of the nature of a Private Statute, constituting into a corporation a charitable society
- called the "Protestant Benevolent Institution."
 62. The passing of this measure showed the necessity for powers being conferred on the Governor to grant charters of incorporation to societies for religious, scientific, charitable, and other similar objects, the law of the Colony limiting the Governor's powers in such matters to "societés anonymes," or joint stock companies, or limited liability. A measure of this nature will soon be introduced.

63. The remaining Ordinances for the year 1865 were for the usual financial objects, and do not require to be specially mentioned.

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MAURITIUS.

64. In conclusion, I would observe that the business of the Local Legislature continues to be performed in a spirit of cordial co-operation and assistance towards the Government, and with an entire absence of party spirit or opposition. Indeed, this important part of the colonial institutions may be said to work most satisfactorily.

Chambers, 18th July 1866.

W. G. DICKSON, (Signed) Procureur and Advocate General.

Encl. 9 in No. 18.

Enclosure 9 in No. 18.

Notes in connection with the Return of Revenue, Exports, and Population for the years 1833 to 1865.

The following notes may be found useful by his Excellency. They do not profess to give a complete history of immigration, but they may serve as a guide to the laws and other documents in which

that history is recorded.

From 1834 to 1842, Indian labourers were introduced from time to time under special permits from the Government, but at the expense of private parties. Between the passing of the Indian Act 5 of 1837 and the publication of the Order in Council of 7th September 1838 (see Proclamation of 11th March 1839), they could be engaged in India for five years, but after the 11th March 1839 they could only be engaged for one year, and not till after their arrival in the Colony. This system of private introduction was continued, with one or two interruptions, until 1839, when the Indian Government passed an Act, No. 14 of 1839, declaring that after the 1st July of that year emigration from India would be unlawful India would be unlawful.

On the 15th January 1842 an Order in Council was passed, ordering that, "in the event of any law being made in British India authorizing the immigration to Mauritius of the natives of India, "and repealing the restrictions" then "in force there with regard to such immigration, and in the "event of any such law enabling the Governor General of India to appoint at the several ports of embarkation in India officers charged with the protection of persons emigrating from such ports to "Mauritius," certain rules and regulations specified in a schedule attached to the Order should have the force of law in Mauritius.

The schedule alluded to provided for the appointment of emigration agents in India, and a Protector

in Mauritius, regulated the number of emigrants to be carried in each Coolie ship, and the diet to be provided on the voyage, &c. &c., and declared that no emigrant should be capable of entering into a contract of service for at least 48 hours after his landing in Mauritius.

An Act was passed in India as contemplated (Act No. 15 of 1842), and, in anticipation of it, an Ordinance, No. 7 of 1842, was passed here setting apart certain duties on spirits "for the payment of the expenses attendant on the passage of Indian labourers coming to Mauritius and those returning to their country, who are entitled to a free passage, as also to that of all other expenses "consequent on immigration."

"returning to their country, who are entitled to a free passage, as also to that of all other expenses "consequent on immigration."

The new system of immigration for which provisions were thus made came into force in 1843, under Ordinances No. 11 of 1842, and No. 3 of 1843; it still left the introduction of Coolies in the hands of private parties, but an indemnity of 6l. to 7l. was paid from the public funds to the introducer of every male immigrant lawfully brought into the Colony, which indemnity was subject to increase in proportion to the number of females introduced. It was further provided, that at the expiration of five years' industrial residence in the Colony, or at any other subsequent period, the immigrant should be entitled to a return passage at the public expense, provided that he re-engaged for at least one year after the expiration of his first contract of service, which could still, as before, be of only a year's duration; and it was further enacted, by Ordinance No. 22* of 1847, that if any immigrant wished to leave the Colony at his own expense, before completing five years' industrial residence, he should pay a commutation tax at the rate of 1l. 10s. per annum for any number of calendar months wanting to make up the term. calendar months wanting to make up the term.

This system† continued until 1851, with occasional modifications in points of detail (see Ordinances Nos. 25 and 26 of 1848, and 3 and 5 of 1849), of which the only one of present importance is the permission given by Ordinance No. 3 of 1849 to enter into contracts of service in the Colony for three

By Ordinance No. 9 of 1851 a regular system of immigration, conducted by the Government, was organized. The Governor was to determine annually, according to the number of immigrants intended to be introduced, the number of such immigrants which each employer should be allowed to engage without additional payment. This additional payment was increased by Ordinance No. 15 of 1854, and in the following year an Ordinance (No. 12 of 1855) was passed regulating the private introduction of immigrants in such a manner as to admit of the two different systems being worked simultaneously, as they continued to be until the passing of Ordinance No. 22 of 1857 simultaneously, as they continued to be until the passing of Ordinance No. 22 of 1857.

* Prior to the date of this enactment there was no guarantee that the Indian would remain in the Colony long enough to compensate for the cost of his introduction. It is said that 2 per cent. of the whole number that arrived in 1843 and 1844 left the Colony before the close of the latter year.

† That is to say, the law remained unaltered; but from the middle of the year 1844 some 6,000 immigrants were introduced annually by the Covernment, and elletted to planters on their environment, and the practice seems

were introduced annually by the Government, and allotted to planters on their arrival; and the practice seems to have virtually superseded the private introduction of immigrants long before Ordinance No. 9 of 1851 came into operation. The number of immigrants introduced by private parties under the bounty system between November 1842

and May 1844 amounted to 41,163.

The causes of the failure of this system, and the manner in which it was proposed to remedy them by Ordinance No. 22 of 1857, are thus described in a Despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 17th October 1857, No. 53:—

MAURITIUS.

"The Ordinance No. 12 of 1855, in order to encourage private persons to import immigrants at their own expense (though through the agency of Government), provided that any planter might despatch, through the immigration agent at Mauritius to the emigration agent at Calcutta, a requi-"sition for extra immigrants to be introduced at the expense of the requisitionist, which immigrants would accordingly (subject to certain conditions) be allotted to him on their arrival.

"It appears by the report of the Immigration Committee of the Chamber of Agriculture that the latter Ordinance has become a dead letter, obviously because the terms on which it enables planters "to get an extra number of immigrants are less advantageous to him than those held out by the "Ordinance of 1854. And the immigration agent, in a report which is not sent home, states that the effect of this latter Ordinance is to aggravate the evils notoriously arising from the keenness with which planters compete for the services of immigrants.

"The Legislative Council accordingly has passed an Ordinance repealing the 6th and 7th clauses of the Ordinance No. 15 of 1854, and making provisions analogous to those of No. 12 of 1855,

which, however, it leaves in force.

"The Ordinance provides that any person who chooses to pay to Government the cost of introducing any newly arrived immigrant, and of a proportionate number of females, may have these people allotted to him out of the Government immigration, over and above his quota; and that if the "immigrants leave him at the end of their three years' engagement he will be entitled to receive any tax paid to the public on account of those immigrants during the two last years of their industrial

"residence, amounting to not less than 30s. or more than 60s."

Immigration from the territories of the East India Company having been temporarily suspended in 1856, in consequence of alleged defects in the quarantine system, an Ordinance was passed (No. 23 of 1857), regulating the introduction of immigrants from territories not under the government of the East India Company, but, as the suspension was removed in June 1857, little, if any, action has been

taken under this law.

The circumstances that led to the next great change in the immigration system, viz., the authority given by Ordinance No. 30 of 1858 to engage immigrants in India for three years, are fully detailed in Governor Stevenson's Despatch, No. 22 of 1858, and the way was prepared by the same Despatch for the introduction of the system of five years' engagements, which were authorized to be made in India by Ordinance No. 16 of 1862, and in Mauritius by Ordinance No. 18 of 1864.

I have, &c., ed) E. Douglas, (Signed) Assistant Colonial Secretary.

SEYCHELLES.

SEYCHELLES. No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 204.)

SIR. Mauritius, 29th August 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Annual Statistical Returns of the Dependency of Seychelles, together with a letter from the Civil Commissioner, which, though dated 30th May, did not reach me (in consequence, probably, of the mail steamers discontinuing to call there on the voyage down from Aden at this season of the year) until the 6th instant, too late to accompany my Despatch forwarding the Blue Book of Mauritius.

2. Mr. Ward's Report is so full and so ably written, that but few remarks from myself seem requisite. He shows the position of affairs to be satisfactory; the value of exports, though still under 30,000l., to be rising, especially as regards cocoa-nut oil, and the population to be increasing from natural causes.

3. He likewise describes the construction of the road across Mahé, the chief Island, begun some time ago, as already productive of advantage, and its chief town as rapidly improving, owing to this circumstance and to the number of men-of-war and other ships

resorting to Port Victoria.

4. With regard to Revenue, as almost all the goods consumed are imported duty-paid from Mauritius, no authentic data exist for deciding the much-vexed question of whether the Seychelles group is a burden to the mother Colony or not; but accepting Mr. Ward's calculations as correct, and adding the 1,460l. which (including goods ex steamer) he claims, to the receipts on account of General Revenue, it would appear from a return which I have had made up from the books here, that the Revenue of this

SEYCHELLES. Dependency has during the past year covered its expenses, including the sum of 300l.

appropriated to the completion of a hospital.

5. This result is highly creditable to Mr. Ward, as it is undoubtedly a great improvement on the state of things which existed when his administration began, and it is, on the whole, so satisfactory that I shall be at length able to avail myself of the permission, long since granted by Her Majesty's Government, to apply to Council at the first fitting opportunity to make some provision for the Roman Catholic clergy. Hitherto, three priests have been labouring zealously at Seychelles, supported solely by their flocks, and exposed consequently to much privation; but I shall be very glad to propose for them stipends equal to what they would receive in Mauritius, and I do not anticipate, as matters stand, much objection to the proposal.

6. Mr. Ward considers that the consumption of rum would be larger, and that the local production would be encouraged, if the rate of duty (5s. 6d. per gallon) were reduced, but there would be both difficulty and danger to the Revenue in Mauritius if a lower rate were imposed in the Dependencies; and looking to the fact that a considerable proportion of the consumption at Mahé must be ascribed to the crews of Her Majesty's ships, it may be doubted whether it would be desirable on moral grounds to make that spirit too cheap; on the other hand, it is worthy of consideration whether the manufacture of the deleterious fermented preparation of cane juice, which he describes as

competing with distilled spirits, ought not to be checked by law.

7. It still remains to take final steps for setting at rest all questions with the Crown in this Dependency as to titles to landed property, but I am afraid this cannot be done until the Surveyor General has had the opportunity of paying it another visit, and conferred personally with the Civil Commissioner on the subject.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

Enclosure in

Enclosure in No. 19.

CIVIL COMMISSIONER, SEYCHELLES, to HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Seychelles, 30th May 1866. I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the annual returns required for the Blue Book.

2. Your Excellency will be pleased to observe that there is again an increase in the exports for 1865 for those for 1864. The trade in cocoa-nut oil is steadily thriving, and upon this trade the prosperity over those for 1864. over those for 1864. The trade in cocoa-int of its steadily tilling, and upon this trade the prosperity of the Islands in a great measure depends. The total value of the exports amounts to 27,313L, showing an increase of 3,890L over those for 1864. Of this total, 20,133L is derived from cocoa-int cultivation. The price of oil keeps steady; and as many new plantations are rapidly coming into bearing, and large tracts of available land to be being brought until the confidently entiring the confidently entire the co export of oil, may be confidently anticipated for 1866.

3. The demand for vacoa bags still increases, and an export trade in them has commenced with Zanzibar and with Johanna. The value of those exported in 1865 amounts to 3,594*l*., and there is no reason for supposing that the demand can ever exceed the supply. The cost of cultivating the vacoa is extremely

supposing that the demand can ever exceed the supply. The cost of cultivating the vacoa is extremely small, and it grows well in almost any kind of soil.

4. Trade in tobacco has considerably diminished, owing to the cessation of the civil war in America, and also to the very inferior quality of some of the importations to Mauritius. In timber hardly anything has been done for some time past, except as regards the supply of spokes and naves for wheels. No timber now remains upon the plateaux at the base of the hills, and the cost of transporting that still growing on the crests of the mountains is so great that it would not be worth while cutting it. It is, besides, most desirable that it should remain standing in order to attract the clouds, and ensure to the Islands a sufficiency of rain. ensure to the Islands a sufficiency of rain.

5. Tortoise-shell has slightly advanced, but the major portion of the shell exported has been brought from a long distance, from the Islands close to the Comoros and Madagascar, which can hardly be

said to be connected with the Seychelles group.

6. In almost all the minor items of export a falling off will be observed, the inhabitants finding it

more to their advantage to cultivate cocoa-nuts on a proper principle, or to occupy themselves with legitimate commerce, although in a small way.

7. The amount of duty received for rum has slightly advanced, but is still lower than in 1863. Although this apparently decreases the Revenue of the Dependency, yet the amount of spirits imported from Mauritius more than counterbalances the difference taking into consideration the duties ported from Mauritius more than counterbalances the difference, taking into consideration the duties levied in Port Louis. According to calculations based upon the manifests of all the vessels which came into this port from Mauritius during 1865, the duties upon wines and spirits brought to Seychelles amounted to 563l, and the total duties upon all imports to 1,168l. This does not include the duties

upon goods brought here by the mail steamers, which amount to about one fourth more.

8. For the past three years only one still has been at work in the Dependency, and this one for only six months in each year. The heavy duty on rum and the high price now charged for it in retail has caused a marked difference in the amount of its consumption, which a slight reduction in the duty would

obviate. At present the poorer classes have recourse to a villanous substitute, which goes by the name of "bacca," the expressed juice of either the sugar cane or the pine apple, allowed to ferment for two or three days, and then mixed with a peculiar berry called "jambrovat," which is strongly impregnated with narcotic poison. The effects of taking too much of this mixture are most injurious and stupifying, far more so than are the effects of drinking properly distilled rum. Unfortunately, too, for the people the law cannot prevent the manufacture of this most deleterious decoction, though it can prevent its sale, But this is easily and constantly evaded; and large quantities are made in the outlying districts, where it is impossible for the police to exercise much supervision. Were its manufacture made contrary to law, and the duty on rum reduced, the consumption of the latter would increase. made contrary to law, and the duty on rum reduced, the consumption of the latter would increase,—no loss would accrue to the Government, and encouragement would be given to the actual manufactures of the Islands.

9. But little decided change has taken place in the aspect of the Dependency during the past year, 9. But little decided change has taken place in the aspect of the Dependency during the past year, but everything may be said to be thriving, and scarcely any real poverty exists in any of the Islands. Commerce has greatly advanced, and many new shops have been opened. Coal has been introduced, and a regular and ample supply kept up for vessels touching at this port. Cotton to some extent has been exported to England vià Zanzibar, and its cultivation throughout the country is steadily increasing. Owing to the inferior machinery used for cleaning the cotton sent to England, it had lost much of its value, and did not fetch at all a proportionate price to what was expected from a valuation of the uncleaned samples. With better appliances, about fourpence per pound more might have been obtained for it at home. The gins now in use had nearly destroyed the original staple.

the original staple.

10. The town of Port Victoria has greatly improved in appearance during the past year; new buildings are being erected on all sides; the streets are all in excellent order, and two new ones have been opened. The sea wall and chaussée have been thoroughly repaired, and care has been taken that all the new buildings have a correct alignment with the street. Land in the town and its indicate is double the value it was in 1863, and house rent has advanced in proportion.

taken that all the new buildings have a correct alignment with the street. Land in the town and its immediate vicinity is double the value it was in 1863, and house rent has advanced in proportion.

11. This increased prosperity is owing in a great measure to the numerous visits from men-of-war, both English and French, some of the crews of which spend large sums of money during their stay. It is also owing to the present increased facility of communicating with the interior. The high road to the south point of this Island is progressing steadily, and the Ordinance is working satisfactorily so far. But the work has been found very heavy in parts of the trace, especially heavy for the unskilled labourers who elect to work in lieu of paying the tax. The enormous rocks which constantly block the passage of the road take much time in removal, and cause considerable delay in the many difficult places which must exist in a mountainous country.

in the many difficult places which must exist in a mountainous country.

12. The portion already opened has proved to the people the great benefit that they must ultimately derive from its completion. None of those who, when the tax was first imposed, grumbled at being obliged to pay for what they appeared to think was not required, would now wish to have the tax removed and the road discontinued. The great facility it affords to the merchants in the town for sending their wares into the interior has already satisfied them of its utility and advantage, nowithstanding that they were the first to complain of the tax. Indeed, all classes now begin to perceive that it would have been difficult to have introduced any measure more beneficial than the construction of a really good road.

13. Notwithstanding the unusual quantity of rain that fell during the year, the general health of the inhabitants has been good. The deaths amounted to 180, the births to 296; viz., males 148,

females 148.

I have, &c., (Signed) SWINBURNE WARD, Civil Commissioner.

To His Excellency the Governor, &c. &c.

LONDON:
Printed by George E. Eyre and William Spottiswoode,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

For the Year 1865.

PART II.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA;
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND;
EASTERN COLONIES;
THE MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS, &c.

Presented to both Mouses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty,

4th July 1867.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

SCHEDULE.

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NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

Canada.
No. 1.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Not received.

Nova Scotia.

NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 2.

Not received.

New Brunswick. No. 3.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer administering the Government to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 5.)

My Lord, Fredericton, New Brunswick, January 25, 1867.
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the "Blue Book" for this

Province for the year 1865.

As the period to which it relates was so long anterior to the date at which I assumed the administration of the Government, I trust that your Lordship will not expect from me any detailed account of the state of the Province at that time.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Dundas to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 19.)

Government House, February 23, 1867.

My Lord,

In forwarding duplicate copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for 1865 I have to express my regret at the unusual and unaccountable delay in its compilation.

I should have been able to have characterized the year to which it refers as one of general prosperity, had it not been for civil disturbances, by which that prosperity was in

These disturbances arose out of the land tenure, and were occasioned by an organization called the Tenant League; as one of the avowed intentions of this league was to withhold from the landowners the rent which was due to them, collision with the law,

should this course be persisted in, was sooner or later inevitable.

During the summer of 1865 the crisis came, and the civil power proved inadequate to meet it. An application was, therefore, made by the Officer administering the Government for a detachment of Her Majesty's troops. Happily, their presence was sufficient

to allay the disturbances.

There does not appear to be much in the various returns of which this book is comprised, to call for special remark on my part.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year was 45,360l.; the expenditure, 50,633l. As compared with 1864, the increase or decrease under each head of revenue was very small; the total increase, 1,145l.; the expenditure was 12,069l. larger than that of the previous year. There are few items of ordinary expenditure which do not show an increase; this increase, however, would have been more than met by the revenue, but a large expenditure (6,418l.) was incurred on account of the troops sent to this Island. This was not anticipated in the estimates, and causes the total expenditure to exceed the revenue by 5,370l.

The public debt was thus increased to 49,760l.

Military Expenditure.

For several years previous to 1865 regular troops have not been stationed in Prince Edward Island, and there has consequently not been any expenditure on that account.

Civil disturbances, as I have already remarked, were the cause of a detachment being ordered here in August 1865. The old barracks had been sold under a local statute, with the understanding that accommodation would be provided in the event of troops ever being again quartered here. A barrack was therefore built, and this, with transport and other disbursements, occasioned an outlay by the Colony during the year of 6,4181.

Militia.

I am glad to be relieved from the necessity of passing the strictures which I should have felt it my duty to pass on this occasion on the laws relating to the local forces in 1865, and the inadequate provision made for the maintenance of those forces. These subjects again occupied the attention of the Legislature in 1866, and the action which was thereupon taken for their organization is all that could be expected, taking into consideration the limited resources of the Colony.

Legislation, &c.

The statutes enumerated in this Blue Book do not appear to call for any special remark.

The attention of both branches was, however, specially directed during the Session of 1865 to the question of a more intimate connexion of the Provinces of British North America. In this, the smallest of the Colonies concerned, union of any sort, federal or legislative, of all the Provinces or of the lower Provinces alone, has always met with violent opposition. The scheme adopted by the Conference at Quebec, which was under discussion during the Session, met with little favour in the Island Legislature, was rejected unanimously in the Upper House, and had but five supporters in the House of Assembly.

Imports and Exports.

The imports for the year were in value 381,015l.; the exports, 291,545l., showing an increase respectively of 43,088l. and 88,877l. on the returns of 1864.

The ships built during the year do not appear in this return; their value, amounting to about 147,000*l*., would place the exports in excess of the imports.

Gaols.

With reference to the answers to the questions under this head, I may remark, that although the gaols of the Colony are efficiently managed, so far as they go, there are many and serious defects in their construction, and in prison discipline. Some improvements have, however, been made since the date of this return.

Such appear to be the only points on which I need remark. I may add that the information required on pages 56 and 57 does not appear to have been obtained. I am, however, unwilling longer to delay the transmission of this Blue Book in order to obtain it

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, (Signa &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE DUNDAS,
Lieutenant-Governor.

NEW-FOUNDLAND. No. 5.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Musgrave to the Right Honourable the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 119.)

Government House, Newfoundland,

August 21, 1866.

My LORD, I HAVE the honour to forward one copy of the Blue Book of this Colony for the

year 1865.

2. The details of these tables call for no special explanation, and nothing in the circumstances of the Colony during the year induces me to believe that I need trouble you with any addition to the general remarks upon its condition which I had the honour to submit when forwarding the returns for 1864.

3. The fisheries of 1865 were much more fortunate than in recent former years, and

agricultural operations were unusually successful.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c.

A. MUSGRAVE. (Signed)

BERMUDA. No. 6.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Colonel Ord, R.E., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 20.)

Bermuda, April 7, 1866.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1865.

2. Taxes. The cessation of the blockade running trade has necessitated an increase of taxation, and the duty on imports was raised from two to three per cent. Notwithstanding this increase the falling off in the revenue has been considerable, whilst the expenditure has not decreased in proportion.

3. I annex an abstract of the revenue and expenditure for the last four years, the period during which the Colony derived benefit from the exceptional traffic with the southern

ports.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Saving.	Excess.
	£	£	£	£
1862	21,804	19,298	2,506	nil.
1863	24,259	18,514	5,745	nil.
1864	30,658	27,100	3,558	nil.
1865	24,496	35,627	nil.	11,131
	101,217	100,539	11,809	11,131

Actual saving, £678.

4. In the expenditure for the past year is included a sum of 6,000l. invested in the funds for the construction of two important works, a new gaol and a lighthouse, which may be said to represent the whole advantage the Colony has to exhibit as derived from its large increase of revenue during these years. I regret to add that the present depressed condition of the local treasury renders it almost certain that the Colony will have either to resort to a loan or to make use of this money to enable it to meet its liabilities. I have, &c.

H. St. GEORGE ORD. The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) &c. &c.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 7.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer Administering the Government to the Right Honourable the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 72.)

My LORD, New Westminster, October 31, 1866. I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book Returns for the year 1865.

2. The actual Colonial Revenue collected during the year amounted to 116,106l., as against 104,099l. in 1864, an increase of 12,007l. Of this amount the sum of 10,5571. is the result of a newly imposed tax of 1s. 6d. and 2s. an ounce on gold exported from the Colony. The Customs Returns also show a considerable increase.

The decrease of 8,318l. under the head of Road Toll Receipts is attributable to an alteration in the law, by which all home-grown produce is now exempt from payment of tolls, and may be taken as satisfactory evidence of the increasing amount of agri-

cultural produce now raised by the settlers in the interior.

The pre-emption law, under which the Crown lands are acquired, does not require the payment of the upset price, 4s. 2d. an acre, until the general survey of the Colony reaches the land claimed by a pre-emptor. No general survey has been commenced, and the only receipts under the head of Land Sales were derived from the sale of the few town and suburban lots offered for public competition during 1865; this will explain the apparent falling off in the land sales receipts.

The actual expenditure for the year 1865 amounted to 141,7621.

3. Military Expenditure.

10,700l. appears as the Colonial expenditure under this Return for the year 1865, being a charge made by the Imperial Government for barrack buildings erected for the detachment of Royal Engineers serving in the Colony from 1859 to 1863. There are no military posts or works, and since the departure of the Royal Engineers no further expenditure has been incurred. A sum of 230l. was expended in the construction of a drill shed for the use of the New Westminster Rifle Volunteers, a corps steadily increasing in numbers and efficiency.

4. Public Works.

The discovery of extensive gold fields in the most distant portions of the Colony has necessitated an enormous expenditure in the construction of public roads, when compared with the settled population of the Colony. During the year 1865, 57,123l. was expended in opening communication with the several mining districts, and 16,915l. on public works. I enclose a Report, prepared by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, giving a detailed account of the operations of his department during the past * Not printed. year.*

5. Legislation.

The Legislative Council passed 28 Ordinances during the session extending from

January to April.

No. 1. The first Ordinance extends the period for which exclusive privileges were granted to Messrs. Janion Green and Trutch to enable the formation of a company for the introduction of traction engines for the conveyance of supplies to the mining districts of the interior. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining the requisite capital,

and the project is now abandoned.

To amend the law of evidence. Provides that any court or magistrate in the Colony may, in criminal and civil cases, receive the evidence of any Native destitute of the knowledge of God, or religion, or a future state, without administering an oath, preliminary caution being given that false evidence will be punished as perjury. The necessity for this law was strongly represented by Mr. Justice Begbie, after six years' experience as Judge of the Supreme Court of this Colony, and it is found to work with

The principle of the Customs Amendment Ordinance is taken from the Canadian Statutes. It provides that the duties shall be collected on the market price

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

at the place of shipment. Under the previous law duties were collected on all invoices from the neighbouring Colony of Vancouver Island at the value named in the invoice, but on goods received from other ports than those of Vancouver Island an addition of 331 per cent, was added by the Customs Department to the value specified in the invoices, and duties collected at the increased rates. The Council were of opinion that this system gave undue advantage to the merchants of Vancouver Island, and prevented the establishment of commercial houses in this Colony.

Nos. 5, 7, and 28. The Ordinances relating to telegraphs were introduced under

instruction from the Secretary of State.

No 5. Gives power to an American company to construct a line of telegraph through British Columbia, and to erect block houses for defence against Native tribes along the line of telegraph. It further allows all telegraph material and supplies to be admitted free of customs duties for a period of three years while the line is in course of construction.

No. 28 provides for the incorporation of the company under the Joint Stock Ordinance, and for the establishment of a permanent head office at New Westminster. No. 7 repeals an Ordinance passed in 1864, giving exclusive privileges to the California State

Telegraph Company.

No. 6. A private bill authorizing the collection of tolls on goods crossing a bridge to be constructed over the Thompson River at Lytton. The conditions of the Charter granted under this Ordinance not having been fulfilled, the privileges have been forfeited.

No. 8. American coinage is in universal circulation, and commercial transactions are conducted in dollars and cents. The Decimal Currency Ordinance was passed to enable the public accounts to be kept in the decimal system. The tender of silver coin is limited to 10 dollars. The sovereign is taken at $\$4\frac{85}{100}$. The shilling and florin are

valued as $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ dollars.

This Ordinance authorizes the Governor, on the petition of, in his opinion, a sufficient proportion of the residents of any town or place in the Colony praying for municipal institutions, to grant the same by Charter, under certain restrictions expressly laid down in the several clauses. The enactment may be considered as a tentative measure, to supply the place of a general municipal law, which the crude state of the

Colony does not at present admit.

No. 13. Imposes a tax of 2s. an ounce on unassayed and 1s. 6d. on assayed gold. The inability of the revenue of 1864 to meet the heavy charges for the construction of roads necessitated further taxation, and it was considered that no more just tax could be imposed than one which would chiefly be felt by the successful miner, the entire public debt having been incurred in the construction of roads to facilitate communication with the distant mining districts, and thus cheapen the price of living in the mines. The working of the Ordinance has, however, proved the mode of taxation to be unsuited to a Colony so peculiarly situated as British Columbia. The miners were enabled to draw unsatisfactory comparisons between the taxation in British Columbia and the neighbouring gold fields of Nevada and Idaho, where no such tax exists, and thus a feeling of hostility to the tax, and a desire to evade the payment of duty, was shown, which made it difficult to collect the revenue on our extensive southern frontier, and was a great incentive for the commencement of a system of smuggling. Under these circumstances, the Legislative Council have, during the present year 1866, repealed this Ordinance.

No. 14. Consolidates the several proclamations, rules, regulations, and ordinances which have from time to time been passed respecting gold mining in British Columbia.

No. 16. Increases the penalty formerly attached to the sale or gift of intoxicating liquor to Indians. Under this Ordinance any person selling, bartering, or giving liquor to Indians is liable to a penalty of 100l., and on a second conviction for the like offence can be committed to prison for a term of 12 months, with hard labour, without the This stringent measure has proved very beneficial in checking the sale option of a fine. of liquor to the Indian Tribes of the interior.

No. 17. Prohibits the sale during the breeding season of deer, elk, and the species of grouse which abound throughout the Colony. While the Indians could obtain purchasers for game the destruction in the breeding season was immense, and game of all kinds

gradually decreased in the neighbourhood of towns.

No. 18. The Ordinance to exempt home-grown produce from road tolls was framed on a resolution of the Council, with a view to encourage the development of the agricultural resources of the Colony. This Ordinance also exempts all stores and materials used in the construction of the International Telegraph from the payment of road tolls.

BRITISH

COLUMBIA.

No. 19. To prevent the violation of Indian graves it was found necessary to attach a heavy penalty to the offence. It is customary with Native tribes to decorate the graves of their dead with the articles most cherished by the deceased. Guns, canoes, blankets, and many other valuable articles will be found deposited in an Indian grave yard, as well as quaintly carved images. Great respect is shown by the Indians to these grave yards, and the destruction of the property by White men, either for curiosity or gain, was found likely to lead to a breach of the peace between the two races. The Ordinance attaches a penalty of 100l., with or without imprisonment for six months, for rifling Indian graves, and renders a second offence liable to 12 months' imprisonment.

No. 20. The Bankruptcy Ordinance is an adoption, with occasional modification, of the Bankrupt Law Consolidation Act, 1849, with provisions enabling the district magistrate in the absence of the Supreme Court Judge, to deal with uncontested bankruptcy cases

within their own districts.

No. 23. Imprisonment Exemption Ordinance, 1865, abolishes imprisonment for debt under a capias ad satisfaciendum on a judgment, except where fraud, intention to abscond, or improper conduct in the debtor is shown. It also establishes gaol limits as in Canada. The law relating to capias ad respondendum for the arrest of absconding

debtors remains unaltered by this statute.

No. 27. Is a consolidation of previous Land Acts, with some amendments, for the promotion of actual settlement, the avoidance of litigation, and speedy and cheap adjustment of disputes. It also contains provisions for the grant of leases for pastoral and timber cutting purposes, and a clause enabling the Governor, with the consent of the Home Government, and publication in the Government Gazette, to make free or partially free grants of land for the purposes of immigration.

6.—Pensions.

The present is the first appearance of any expenditure from the local revenue under this head. The recipients are the widows of officers killed in the public service.

Mrs. McLean's husband was shot during the Chilicoten insurrection.

Mrs. Ogilvy is the widow of a revenue officer killed by a White man against whom he was about to bring the charge of selling liquor to Indians. In each instance the Legislative Council voted a pension of 100l. per annum for a period of five years.

7.—Population.

It has been found impossible to take any correct census of the population, and the return under this heading is collected from the reports of the several district magistrates, and must only be considered as approximate. Miners as a class have no fixed abode. During the mining season they are to be found scattered over an area of 400 miles throughout the gold bearing range of mountains. As winter sets in many of those who have made sufficient money to leave the Colony do so by the many routes open to them, and spend their money in Portland or San Francisco. The settled White population during 1865 did not in my opinion exceed 6,000. The Chinese may be estimated at 3,000, the Indians at 35,000. To this may be added a migratory population during summer months of an additional 3,000 miners. The rate of wages both in the mining and agricultural districts, averaging from \$50 to \$150 per mensem, should form a sufficient inducement to emigrants, as there is an abundant field for all clases; but while our system of communication with the mother country is so defective, and the rates for passages so exorbitant, it is useless to expect an immigration of a desirable class of settlers, and the Colony must still depend upon the neighbouring territories to supply the labour market. The subject of adopting some scheme of assisted immigration has been under the consideration of the Legislative Council on two occasions, but without, I regret to say, any satisfactory results.

8.— Education.

No general system of public education exists at present. At New Westminster, Yale, and Douglas public schools are established, and conducted under the supervision of a committee selected by the inhabitants. The Government contribute to the support of these schools, and a payment of \$1 a month is required from the parents or guardians for each child attending school.

The education of the Indian children has been undertaken with most satisfactory results by Mr. Duncan at Metlakahtla on the North-west Coast, and also at the Roman Catholic Mission of St. Mary's on the Fraser, and at the Okanagan Lake in the interior.

10

More schoolhouses for the education of the Native race are about to be established. The expenditure by the Government on account of education during 1865 amounted to 900l.

9.—Imports and Exports.

The returns under this head require to be taken in conjunction with those of the neighbouring Colony of Vancouver Island to form any correct idea of the countries from which the imports are received and to which the exports of this Colony are transmitted. Hitherto the Colony of Vancouver Island has acted as a toll-gate to British Columbia. The free-port system of Vancouver Island has enabled the merchants to live more cheaply in Victoria than on the mainland, and Victoria has thus become the depôt where goods destined for the British Columbia market have been detained, only to be reshipped in small quantities as occasion required. The same remarks will apply to the shipping return.

The total value of imports into British Columbia during the year was 497,734l.

The total value of exports during the same period is estimated at 612,266l., including gold, which is stated in the return to have been exported to the extent of 578,790%. This return must necessarily be incorrect, as it is only from the more important gold fields of Cariboo and Kootenay that any approximate return can be obtained. Miners are distributed more or less over the gold-bearing range of mountains from the 49th to the 54th Parallel North Latitude, and the many outlets from the Colony by way of the southern boundary leave it a matter of impossibility, in the present early stage of the

Colony, to obtain any correct return of the annual produce of gold.

It is difficult also to give a correct return of the furs collected during the year.

Many vessels employed in the fur trade on the North-west Coast return direct to Victoria with their cargo of furs, and thus the return given in the Blue Book merely

represents the quantity brought from the interior by way of Fraser River.

10.—Ecclesiastical.

But few established places of worship exist in the Colony, more particularly in those upper portions where the miners congregate during the summer months. In 1865 New Westminster was the only town where a Protestant clergyman permanently resided, but clergymen of all denominations occasionally visited the towns and mining districts of the upper country.

11.—Agriculture.

A very erroneous opinion of the capabilities of British Columbia as an agricultural and stock raising country has been formed, and the year 1865 may be said to be the first in which practical experience has refuted the general opinion as to the sterility of the soil. The large and fertile tracts of land bordering the lower Fraser are gradually being brought under cultivation; the expense of clearing the heavy forest timber prevents the settler from more rapidly extending his agricultural operations in this lower portion of the Colony. It is, however, beyond the Cascade range of mountains, commencing at Lytton, a distance of 160 miles from New Westminster, that the settlements are more extensive; there the country opens out, and the vast and almost impenetrable forest of pine disappears. Large benches of table land covered with a luxuriant growth of bunch grass border the banks of Fraser and Thompson River, and extend back to the dividing

It has been proved by the experience of 1865 that by a system of irrigation (rendered necessary by the small amount of rain that falls) this land will produce extraordinary crops of all descriptions. The root crops are not to be surpassed in any part of the world; and the cereals, both as regards the quantity and quality of the crops, can

compete with any that are grown in the mother country.

Prior to 1865, little attention had been paid to the raising of wheat, in consequence of the want of grist mills throughout the upper portions of the country, but during the past year four were erected, inducing the settler to enter more extensively into this branch of agriculture, and the upper country now produces most of the flour consumed by the inhabitants. Should the mining population not increase beyond the present ratio, I have no hesitation in saying that after another harvest sufficient grain can be raised to support the population. The portions of the country adapted for pasture are extensive, and the grass known as bunch grass most luxuriant and nutritive. In the early days of the Colony, bands of cattle driven in from the neighbouring American territories supplied the market; but the settler has found by experience that British Columbia as a stock raising country is unrivalled, and a large importation of cattle during 1864 and 1865 has consequently ensued. This branch of farming has proved very lucrative, and large herds of cattle now roam over the high table lands of the interior during the summer months, and pass the long and occasionally severe winters in the valleys, with but little loss to their owners.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

12.—Manufactures, Mines, and Fisheries.

The extensive pine forests bordering the coast are capable of producing an almost

inexhaustible supply of the finest lumber and spars.

Three steam saw mills have been erected at New Westminster and Burrard Inlet, and are capable of turning out 180,000 feet of lumber per diem. A great drawback to the development of this trade is caused by the heavy tax imposed on the importation of foreign lumber at the American ports on the Pacific, thus closing our nearest market, and obliging the shipper to consign his cargo to the markets of Mexico, South America, the Sandwich Islands, and Australia.

Apart from the extensive gold fields gradually being developed during 1865, some rich silver lodes were discovered in the Shuswap district. The land has been reserved to the discoverers for one year, to enable them to obtain capital to develop the mine.

Anthracite coal was discovered on Queen Charlotte Island, and a company has been

formed to work the seams.

The fisheries of the coast remain undeveloped; the Indians chiefly supply the local demand. Extensive cod banks are known to exist on the northern coast. Salmon abound in every river in the Colony; some 1,500 barrels were exported to the Sandwich Islands in 1865.

13. I can refer with much satisfaction to the police and gaol returns, as evidencing the small amount of crime among the heterogeneous community by which this Colony

is peopled.

The circuit of the Supreme Court for 1865 extended to every town and gold field throughout the Colony; during the entire circuit only two criminal cases were brought before the Court. The large Indian population are peaceable, orderly, and contented; and among all classes poverty can scarcely be said to exist.

I have, &c. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, (Signed) ARTHUR N. BIRCH. &c. &c.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

VANCOUVE ISLAND.

No. 8.

No. 8.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Kennedy, C.B., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 55.)

SIR, Government House, Victoria, August 3, 1866. 1. I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year

2. The delay which has occurred in the preparation of this Blue Book is in some degree

owing to the want of sufficient clerical assistance.

3. The circumstances of the Colony during the year 1865 were such as do not call for much comment in addition to the observations made in my Despatch No. 73, August 24, 1865, in which I transmitted the Blue Book for 1864.

Taxes.

4. Under this head an equalization, and in some instances an increase, of port and harbour dues and trade licences have resulted in an increase of receipts; the salaries tax was imposed in 1865.

5. The receipts for liquor licences continue to be very considerable in proportion to

the population.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

Revenue.

6. A statement of the Crown Revenue is given separately from the General Revenue; the increase under the heads of Real Estate tax and Victoria City tax arose from the collection of arrears, and that under the head of Port and Harbour dues as already explained in paragraph 4 of this Despatch. The increase under the head of Postage arises from the receipts for the sale of foreign stamps being now for the first time brought to account. The inclusion of the bank account swell the figures of revenue beyond the amount strictly available as such.

Expenditure.

7. The expenditure is in like manner apparently increased by the bank account being included. Many of the items of increase and decrease in the expenditure may be accounted for by the classification of the details differing somewhat from that adopted in 1864.

Population.

8. The estimate of the population (exclusive of Aborigines), 6,000, compared with 8,000 estimated for 1864, shows a decrease of 2,000. Any falling off in the population may have arisen to some extent from the restlessness of a large portion of it, and from its susceptibility of influences inducing change of abode. Depression in trade and the want of progress in the settlement of the Island owing to the peculiar condition of matters relating to Crown lands, may also have tended to a reduction of the population. I should state, however, that I regard this estimate of the decrease of the population with great doubt.

9. The decrease in the imports may be attributed to similar causes.

10. I may remark in conclusion that during the year 1865, from circumstances with which you are fully acquainted, the state of this Colony may be regarded as one of expected transition rather than of progress, although the Colony contains within itself the elements of substantial prosperity.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed)

A. E. KENNEDY,
Governor.

AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.

SIERRA LEONE. No. 9.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 9.

(Not received.)

Mo. 10.

GAMBIA.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor BLACKALL to the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 29.)

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose to your Lordship the Blue Book for this Settlement

for the year 1865, with the Administrator's report thereon.

2. I think the returns which are alluded to by Colonel d'Arcy are, with the exception of that of births and deaths, satisfactory evidence that this Settlement is advancing in prosperity and civilization.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, (Signed) SAM. W. BLACKALL, Governor-in-Chief.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, Gambia, November 9, 1866.

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for 1865, with the following brief report.

Imports.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the VALUE of the ARTICLES of IMPORTS during the Years 1864 and 1865.

Articles.		*.	Value of Articles imported in 1864.	Value of Articles imported in 1865.	Increase in 1864.	Increase in 1865		
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
le and porter		-	1,903 0 3	2,559 4 0	_	656 3 9		
mber and coral		-	961 18 6	835 5 0	126 13 6	J		
mmunition -	_	-	57 5 0	77 6 0		21 1 0		
nchors and chains	_	-	102 16 0	168 8 0		65 12 0		
sphalte -		-	17 0 0	211 5 0		194 5 0		
ags (empty)		-	330 6 0	870 18 0		540 12 (
Seads -		-	680 17 0	292 3 0	388 14 0	-		
lue and starch		-	48 16 0	155 4 0		106 8 (
rass rods -		-	86 4 0	140 18 0		54 14 (
read and biscuits		-	1,601 15 0	509 17 0	1,091 18 0	_		
ricks and tiles			826 15 0	466 15 0	360 0 0	_		
andles -			310 0 0	603 7 0		293 7 (
anvas -			49 6 0	858 11 0		809 5 (
offee -			156 10 0	157 10 0		1 0 (
colah nuts -			8,685 0 0	9,015 0 0		330 0 (

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the VALUE of the ARTICLES of IMPORTS during the Years 1864 and 1865—cont. Cambia.

Cordage and twine Cotton cards	£ s. d. 446 2 0 280 0 0 9,509 18 0 141 8 0 1,103 12 0 205 6 0 258 12 0 3,065 1 0 176 19 0 543 6 0 125 2 0 1,281 7 6 2,038 8 0 2,525 4 0 387 0 0 4,930 2 0 2,231 4 0 14 0 0 133 0 0 490 4 0 100 0 0 1,626 3 0 581 11 0 54 10 0	£ s. d. 1,021 15 0 22 10 0 17,190 8 0 628 6 0 72 0 0 436 11 0 57 9 0 3,288 14 0 91 7 0 121 10 0 165 13 0 2,062 10 0 2,691 14 0 3,694 14 0 704 18 0 3,112 13 0 1,538 8 0 77 6 0 605 15 0 681 9 0 357 0 0	£ s. d. 257 10 0 1,031 12 0 201 3 0 85 12 0 421 16 0 1,817 9 0 692 16 0	£ s. d. 575 13 0 7,680 10 0 486 18 0 231 5 0 223 13 0 40 11 0 781 2 6 653 6 0 1,169 10 0 317 18 0
Cotton cards Cotton goods Corn produce, W.C.A	280 0 0 9,509 18 0 141 8 0 1,103 12 0 205 6 0 258 12 0 3,065 1 0 176 19 0 543 6 0 125 2 0 1,281 7 6 2,038 8 0 2,525 4 0 387 0 0 4,930 2 0 2,231 4 0 14 0 0 133 0 0 490 4 0 100 0 0 1,626 3 0 581 11 0	22 10 0 17,190 8 0 628 6 0 72 0 0 436 11 0 57 9 0 3,288 14 0 91 7 0 121 10 0 165 13 0 2,062 10 0 2,691 14 0 3,694 14 0 704 18 0 3,112 13 0 1,538 8 0 77 6 0 605 15 0 681 9 0 357 0 0	257 10 0	575 13 0 7,680 10 0 486 18 0 231 5 0 223 13 0 40 11 0 781 2 6 653 6 0 1,169 10 0
Cotton goods - Cotton yarn - Corn produce, W.C.A Cutlasses and swords - Earthenware - Flour - Fruit and vegetables - Fruit and vegetables - Gruniture - Glassware - Ground nuts - Gunpowder - Guns and pistols - Haberdashery - Hardware - Hides - Hides poison - Iron bars - Leather (manufactured) - Live stock - Lumber and plank - Machinery - Medicine - Metal (in sheets and rods) - Oars - Ootl (edible) - Oil (edible) - Oil (edible) - Oil (edible) - Froisions - Rice, clean (foreign) - Rice, clean (foreign) - Rice, clean (produce) - Rice, rough (produce) - Ships' chandlery - Ships' stores - Shingles - Soap - Spars - Spirits, absinthe - Drandy - Tum - Stationery - Stoneware - Sugar - Tallow -	9,509 18 0 141 8 0 1,103 12 0 205 6 0 258 12 0 3,065 1 0 176 19 0 543 6 0 125 2 0 1,281 7 6 2,038 8 0 2,525 4 0 387 0 0 4,930 2 0 2,231 4 0 14 0 0 133 0 0 490 4 0 100 0 0 1,626 3 0 581 11 0	17,190 8 0 628 6 0 72 0 0 436 11 0 57 9 0 3,288 14 0 91 7 0 121 10 0 165 13 0 2,062 10 0 2,691 14 0 3,694 14 0 704 18 0 3,112 13 0 1,538 8 0 77 6 0 605 15 0 681 9 0 357 0 0	1,031 12 0 201 3 0 85 12 0 421 16 0	7,680 10 0 486 18 0 231 5 0 223 13 0 20 11 0 781 2 6 653 6 0 1,169 10 0
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Medicine		137 0 0	444 11 0	
Dars		44 4 0	10 6 0	
Pars	131 8 0	683 13 0		552 5 0
Dil (edible)	87 4 0	84 7 0	2 17 0	002 0 0
cil, lamp caint, paint oil, and turpentine calm nuts cerfumery citch, tar, and resin crovisions cice, clean (foreign) cice, clean (produce) cice, rough (produce) calt chips' chandlery chips' stores coap cap cap cap cap cap cap cap cap cap c	45 12 0	61 17 0		16 5 0
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Calm nuts Cerfumery Cerfumery Citch, tar, and resin Covisions Cice, clean (foreign) Cice, clean (produce) Cice, rough (produce) Cice	416 16 0	792 0 0		375 4 0
Perfumery	486 2 0	1,179 17 0		693 15 0
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Provisions Rice, clean (foreign) - Rice, clean (produce) - Rice, rough (produce) - Richips' chandlery - Richips' stores - Richips' chandlery - Richips' stores - Richips' chandlery - Richips' stores - Richips' chandlery - Richips' chan	147 4 0	199 4 0		52 0 0
Rice, clean (foreign) Rice, clean (produce) Rice, rough (produce) Rice, rough (produce) Rice, rough (produce) Rice, rough (produce)	147 12 0	164 12 0		17 0 0
Rice, clean (produce) - - Rice, rough (produce) -	1,294 7 0	3,363 19 2		2,069 12 2
Color Colo	23,208 7 0	16,368 4 0	6,840 3 0	_
Salt	278 7 0	262 2 0	16 5 0	
Ships' chandlery	2,368 0 0	1,345 1 0	1,022 19 0	
Ships' stores	388 13 0 34 5 0	826 8 0		437 15 0
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oap	511 9 0		100 7 0	41 14 0
pars	976 5 0	388 2 0 948 14 0	123 7 0	
pirits, absinthe	25 0 0	4 0 0	27 11 0	
,, brandy	720 6 0	244 14 0	21 0 0 475 12 0	
,, gin	532 19 0	1,177 11 0	475 12 0	644 10 0
", liqueur	706 0 0	1,090 2 0		644 12 0
,, rum	348 9 0	237 17 0	110 12 0	384 2 0
tationery	3,210 8 0	5,807 1 0	110 12 0	9 506 19 0
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ugar undries allow	64 15 0	43 0 0	21 15 0	04 12 0
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allow	1,143 3 0	1,879 9 0		736 6 0
	6 0 0	15 9 0		9 9 0
ea	183 19 0	139 18 0	44 1 0	3 3 0
obacco	11,706 16 0	23,385 19 0	_ •	11,679 3 0
arnish	22 9 0	17 10 0	4 19 0	11,0(3 0 0
inegar	45 15 0	31 10 0	14 5 0	
Vaters (mineral)	111 14 0	73 15 0	37 19 0	
Vax (clean)	111 14 0	2,104 0 0	174 13 9	
Vearing apparel	2,278 13 9	2,544 12 0		721 4 0
Vine	2,278 13 9 1,823 8 0	2,726 15 0	242 5 0	
Voodware	2,278 13 9 1,823 8 0 2,969 0 0	,	-	116 4 0
Total -	2,278 13 9 1,823 8 0	241 16 0		

£128,254 1 2 1865 77,071 19 0 1864

£ 51,183 2 2

GAMBIA,

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the VALUE of the ARTICLES of EXPORTS during the Years 1864 and 1865.

Articles	Articles.			Value of Articles exported in 1864.			Artic in 18		Increase in 18	Increase in 1865.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£ s.	d.	£ s.	d.
Cotton goods -		-	6,797	13	0	1,710	9	0	7,087 4	0		
Cutlasses and swor	ds -	-	321	0	0	103	0	0	218 0	0		
Ground nuts -	-	-	79,400	15	0	94,306	12	6			14,905 17	0
Gunpowder -	-	-	479	0	0	708	4	0	_		229 4	0
Guns and pistols	-	-	1,202	19	0	1,355	5	0			152 6	0
Hides	-		24,953	0	0	20,824	8	0	4,128 12	0		
Tobacco -	-	-	1,222	5	0	302	13	0	919 12	0	The second second	
Wax	-	-	11,234	19	11	10,523	2	6	711 17	5	_	
Cotton -	-	-	533	19	1	3,012	15	4	_		2,478 16	3
Spirits (all kinds)		-	579	8	0	971	19	0	-		392 11	0
	Total		126,724	19	0	133,818	8	4				

£133,818 8 4 1865 126,724 19 0 1864 £7,093 9 4

Your Lordship will perceive from the comparative statement of the value of imports, that the year 1865 shows an advantage of no less than 51,183l. 2s. 2d. over the previous year.

Exports.

It is a pleasing duty to record that the harvest of 1865 was a most bountiful one, chiefly causing the increase of 7,093l. over 1864, notwithstanding the losses experienced in the Upper River, from the King of Bundoo's ruthless raid. I fear the export of cotton will not continue at such an increased ratio, inasmuch as the European merchant cannot make the smallest profit on this article, after incurring all the expenses of freight to Europe; however, he gives his orders, I find, liberally, sending it to the Casamance in exchange for rice; the people of that country, the Jolahs, preferring the texture of the Gambia cotton to their own, where it may be said to grow wild in the Jolah country, uncultivated, and, consequently, unappreciated.

These returns may be accepted as evidence of increased industry and progress, notwithstanding the many drawbacks, war, sickness, and famine have necessarily imposed.

Population.

Return of Births and Deaths during the years 1859 to 1866.

	Births.	Deaths
1859	127	254
1860	153	240
1861	106	244
1862	183	261
1863	115	414
1864	108	347
1865	139	291
1866	87	221
	1,018	2,272

That 1,254 deaths are in excess of the births speak very unfavourably for the salubrity of the Settlement; in the rains, the Europeans die,—and in the cold weather, the Africans; badly clad, badly housed, and ill-fed, they yield to the cold north-east wind, which blows night and day without intermission. If it was not for the constant mainland supply of immigrants to St. Mary's, who, after long residence, become civilized British subjects, the inhabitants of the Settlement would soon die out; in this particular we have profited by the adversity experienced by the Yúloff countries to the northern sea-board: the town is now full of labourers, and British Combo is richly cultivated by poor people, who have been tried in the furnace of misfortune; naked and friendless, flying before the Mahommedan sword, they have found a refuge in our

GAMBIA.

territory. The wilds of the new world and Australia were converted to cultivation by the poor and the unhappy, not by the rich. May we not hope the same for the small tract of land Great Britain possesses on the northern coast of Africa?

Crime.

With respect to the nature of crime, a favourable comparison may be drawn even with a European colony, and this is the more singular, inundated as we are during the season of trade by a nomade ignorant people. I find, by a return from Mr. Campbell (our much respected gaoler), that during the last seven years the convictions have been 1,990, but only 332 of these were felonious against the person; the chief trouble is larceny, as will be readily supposed, petty thieving being the tendency of all savage tribes. It is astonishing how amenable they become to discipline on joining the ranks of the convicted, and what pride they take in their task work.

I found the tracks on the Island, on arrival in 1859, fatiguing, from the heavy sand to journey upon, but I leave it, I am happy to say, hard and easy of travel, owing to the undivided labour of the convicts under my daily personal supervision.

Trade.

I now limit myself to explaining to your Excellency somewhat relative to the nature of the river trade. It resembles that of Lagos, inasmuch as it is a mainland trade, dependent on the internal state of the country. The constant wars so paralyze agriculture and industry, that the natives have little to give in return for our imports, save the ground nut; on the river-board, to save land carriage, the farmers congregate, to cultivate the soil, but also to palaver and fight, constant contentions arising out of the possession of its lands. The trade, however, possesses vitality, the river-board is extensive, embracing about 800 miles, including the land on each side of the creeks, which are as broad as some rivers in England. During the four rainy months of July, August, September, and October our native trader (liberated African) is busy; he conveys rice and corn, the property of his European employer, articles at that time most in request, up the river, receiving in exchange pagnes or country cloths, manufactured from cotton grown in the country in the native towns by the weavers, and dyed by the women from Indigo, grown in small quantities near each town; in November he receives ground nuts, hides, and wax, in exchange for these same pagnes, but his factory is now stocked by imports from home; the possession of guns, powder, Madras handkerchiefs, and rum tempts the native to industry, and the trade is very active till the rainy season comes round, when the pagne season again opens; the European merchant generally leaves for Europe by the June mail, leaving this part of the trade to be conducted by his native agent; the trade thus tends to the prosperity of all, and prevents Bathurst being a fishing village.

After many years of intercourse with the race, I cannot see in the African any incapacity for civilization; on the contrary, I am convinced, that the liberated Africans contain in themselves all the elements of a commercial people; if Adam Smith's theory is pronounced orthodox, that it is to the principle of parsimony we owe our capital, and again to capital we owe our comforts and enjoyments; we certainly have this desideratum in the African, who is for the most part a parsimonious citizen, ambitious to rise in the world, and consequently to save and amass. They remind me much of the Banians in Eastern cities, whose personal expenditure is nil, but whose trade speculations are weighty and adventurous; but refinement passes over these half-civilized bigots, as the air of Heaven over a stagnant lake, and they are as we found them in 1757; whereas the liberated African is perhaps rather too eager to adopt our laws to his immediate advantage before he can possibly understand them. As it takes three generations at home to make an English gentleman, likewise does it take three generations to make an intelligent, well-

educated African gentleman.

My successors will be wise if they support agriculture in every way; it is the sheet anchor of this Settlement. Unfortunately, remonstrances alone are not sufficient to deter the natives from baneful war, so tempting to the savage, who risks death and famine for the chance of abducting human beings, whereby he is suddenly enriched; the old leaven of slavery is the curse of Africa. I have been on the point of forming an agricultural society several times, but a press of business has always prevented the attempt. Much of the cotton crop grown from the Egyptian seed the Government imported in 1862 was spoilt from the simple fact that the natives planted it in June instead of August; it is a sun plant, which even at birth only requires two months' rain, not four. The

18352.

Printed monthly report of the discussions in reference to the best time and most approved mode of planting rice, indigo, ground nuts, cassava, beniseed, &c., would, I am convinced, be read by the people of the West Coast with as much eagerness as the Parliamentary debates are in England.

To his Excellency Colonel Blackall, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. d'ARCY,
Colonel and Administrator.

GOLD COAST.

No. 11.

(Not received.)

Lagos.
No. 12.

LAGOS.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Blackall to the Right Hon. E. CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 14.)

Government House, Sierra Leone, May 19, 1866.

I have the honour to enclose one copy of the Blue Book for Lagos for the year 1865.

I have not received any report with this Blue Book, no doubt in consequence of the recent change in the administration of that dependency, but, judging by the comparative tables of revenue of 1865 and 1864, the result appears to be satisfactory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAM. W. BLACKALL,

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.

Governor-in-Chief.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir P. E. Wodehouse, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 99.)

My Lord, Government House, Cape-Town, December 6, 1866.

I beg to transmit for your Lordship's information the Blue Book of the Cape for the year 1865, and should have been well pleased if it had been in my power to submit a more favourable statement of the condition of the Colony. But unfortunately a succession of adverse seasons and other contingencies have now for some time pressed very heavily on all classes of the community. The effect on the public finances is such as might have been expected. The expenditure, notwithstanding the stoppage of nearly all public works, has largely exceeded the income, while the revenue on the other hand has seriously diminished. The total expenditure for the year amounted to 651,515l., while the receipts, exclusive of sums borrowed, did not exceed 536,798l. Unfortunately there has up to the present time been but little improvement. Want of employment for the labouring classes has also been the cause of very numerous thefts of cattle and sheep, and the Government is at this moment greatly embarrassed by the extraordinary number of prisoners, tried and untried, confined in the several gaols.

The Parliament, which has been some weeks in session, has exhibited a steady determination to curtail expenditure and effect a material reduction of the public establishments, rather than to attempt the restoration of the finances by any additional taxation. Whether this measure will succeed is questionable; but no doubt even the attempt will

for some time aggravate the distress in certain quarters.

The legislation of the year was distinguished chiefly by the passing of an enactment by which a discussion extending over several years was at last concluded by the union of the Colonies of the Cape and British Kaffraria. This was a measure which, with a view to the efficient and economical government of these territories, I thought it my duty to press on Her Majesty's Government, notwithstanding the vehement opposition it encountered from some of the people of British Kaffraria, and I am still glad to think that those representations were sufficient to win their decided support of the proposed changes.

I have, &c. (Signed) P. E. WODEHOUSE.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

NATAL.

No. 14.

No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Acting Lieut.-Governor Bisset to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(No. 87.)

Sir, Government House, Natal, August 29, 1866.

I have the honour to forward herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1865.

I have, &c. (Signed) JOHN J. BISSET,

The Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Acting Lieutenant-Governor.

ST. HELENA.

St. Helena. No. 15.

No. 15.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Elliot, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 122.)

St. Helena, June 5, 1866. Herewith I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1865.

2. The state of this post has been so fully reported upon in the course of the Despatches of the past year that it is unnecessary to intrude upon your attention any further detail upon this occasion. I trust, however, that we are now in the steady course of reparation of the public buildings, and that I shall be enabled, in forwarding the Blue Book for the current year, to indicate some considerable progress in that respect in a durable manner against further devastation by the white ant.

I have, &c. (Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

[21]

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND.

NEW SOUTH WALES. STATISTICAL VIEW of the PROGRESS of NEW SOUTH WALES for the last 10 YEARS.

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	* 1				Sel	hools.	ts			les,	Acres	-		Live S	Stock.		
Year.	Population.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Commitments for Trial.	Convictions.	Mills.	Manufactories, Works. &c.	Number of Acres		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865	* 286,873 305,487 342,062 * 336,572 348,546 * 358,278 367,495 378,934 392,589 411,388	10,097 12,501 13,802 14,415 14,233 14,681 15,434 15,679 16,881 17,283	2,778 2,902 2,992 3,295 2,945 3,222 3,326 3,314 3,480 3,578	4,203 4,846 5,883 5,642 6,562 5,343 6,524 6,653 6,445 6,596	565 550 653 739 798 849 925 976 1,022 1,069	29,42 29,23 33,23 32,84 34,76 37,87 42,21 46,81 48,42 53,45	66 780 753 7 685 44 820 887 7 975	461 395 415 406 405 437 514 497 590 686	154 157 169 177 193 184 181 180 174	7 28 9 29 7 54 7 74 7 78 8 78 1 85 1 1,76 2 2,08	4 184,6 5 223,5 9 247,5 5 260,7 8 297,5 9 302,1 8 307,0 4 318,8	$13\frac{1}{2}$ $95\frac{1}{2}$ $42\frac{3}{4}$ 98 75 $38\frac{1}{2}$ 35	168,929 180,053 200,713 214,684 251,497 233,220 273,389 262,554 284,567 282,587	2,023,418 2,148,664 2,110,604 2,190,976 2,408,586 2,271,923 2,620,383 2,032,522 1,924,119 1,961,905	7,736,323 8,139,162 7,581,762 5,162,671 6,119,163 5,615,054 6,145,651 7,790,969 8,271,520 8,132,511	105,998 109,166 92,843 119,701 180,662 146,091 125,541 135,899 164,154 146,901	
	Cos	al raised.		Lan	d Sales	s.			Shipp	ping.			Export	s, the Produ	ce of the Colo	ony.	
					T		Inw	ards.		Ou	twards.		Wo	ool.	Tall	Tallow.	
Year.	Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.		realised.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.		Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.		(Quantity.)	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	(Value.)	
1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865	tons. 189,960 210,434 216,397 308,213 368,862 342,067 476,522 433,889 549,012 585,525	148,1 162,1 3 204,8 2 226,4 2 18,8 2 305,2 2 236,2 2 270,1	906 158 162 371 493 320 234 230	acres. 167,753 145,102 169,214 135,167 109,216 189,936 6 67,292 6 92,016 6 58,216 101,350	210 240 252 155 222 216 128	£ 5,555 6,333 6,633 6,633 6,627 6,316 6,594 6,988 8,211 8,719 8,240	1,143 1,100 1,141 1,250 1,424 1,327 1,493 1,494 1,849 1,912	321,6 351,4 348,9 363,1 427,8 366,2 454,8 607,1 635,8	113 184 121 1335 236 137 168	1,219 1,204 1,254 1,299 1,438 1,391 1,568 1,603 1,842 2,120	336,11 377,14 366,82 387,01 431,48 379,46 467,35 511,37 647,05 690,29	7 1 5 1 5 1 1 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1bs. 9,200,321 7,044,201 3,553,835 6,988,016 2,809,362 2,745,891 3,482,139 4,791,849 8,414,530 8,764,482	£ 1,003,070 1,275,067 1,126,486 1,458,005 1,123,699 1,396,426 1,283,818 1,262,274 1,628,493 1,624,114	37,574 29,085 17,376 13,647 60,638 71,281 17,709 61,056	£ 137,202 82,134 53,186 37,275 28,794 60,816 104,030 31,221 100,654 122,270	
		Export	s, the P	roduce o	f the C	colony.							Reven	iue.	Expenditure.		
Year.	Oil, &c. (Value.)	(Quantity.)	Gold.	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	Coal	(Value.)		Value of Total Imports.d		Value of Total Exports. ^d		General.	Loans.	Ordinary.	Loans.	
1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865	£ 25,355 32,306 1,450 532 136	ozs. 42,468 253,564 254,907 435,995 483,012 488,298 699,566 605,722 758,109 682,523	9 7 9 5 1,6 2 1,8 3 1,8 5 2,7 2 2,3 9 2,9	£ 88,007 83,850 94,960 98,078 976,049 90,908 15,037 61,949 152,471 47,668	ton 84, 96, 113, 173, 233, 207, 308, 298, 372, 382,	086 457 649 935 877 780 782 038 466	£ 65,730 45,960 89,200 132,984 183,761 160,965 245,422 220,181 212,488 214,158	6,5 6,6 6,5 7,5 6,8 9,8 8,8 9,8	£ 160,9 729,4 059,3 697,0 519,2 891,5 834,6 819,5 836,0 928,5	108 4 108 4 1053 4 1055 5 1055 5 10576 6 1042 8	£ 3,430,880 4,011,952 4,186,277 4,768,049 5,072,020 5,594,839 7,102,562 5,936,839 8,117,217 8,191,170	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 c 1	£,130,014 ,185,562 ,379,675 ,522,668 ,319,779 ,448,610 ,628,885 ,550,047 ,693,792 ,938,656	£ 856,539 345,575 76,776 816,822 560,729 394,457 644,285 649,116 290,983 298,578	£ 1,146,468 1,104,995 1,209,796 1,425,028 1,321,724 1,540,005 1,608,810 2,064,299 1,862,245 1,760,516	£ 688,666 438,333 360,770 433,138 726,231 433,224 526,708 537,795 464,656 554,278	

a The Census was taken in 1821, 2, 3, 5, 8, 33, 6; population given.

2nd March 1841, population 130,856
2nd March 1846, 189,609
1st March 1851, 187,243
1st March 1851, 286,189
1st March 1856, 286,189
1st March 1856, 286,189
1st March 1861, 380,860
The population from the year 1859 was caused by the separation of Queensland from New South Wales.

Exclusive of lands conditionally sold under the "Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861."

Price of land in 1825, 7s. 6d. to 10s. per acre.
The minimum price of land was 5s. per acre, from 1832 to 1840; 12s. per acre, 1840-2. (20s. in Port Phillip in 1841). 20s. per acre from 1843 to present time,
Number of acres alienated to the end of 1865 (exclusive of lands conditionally selected in the Old Settled Districts), about 7,900,360 acres.
Number of acres unalienated, about 93,262,305 acres.
In 1822, 3, 4, 5, the accounts were kept in Spanish dollars and British money; generally in Spanish dollars.
Transportation ceased in 1840.
The Return of the Revenue and Expenditure previous to 1850 cannot be accurately ascertained. In addition to the above Expenditure the Imperial Government paid large sums for the maintenance of Convicts and Military.
Gold discovered in May 1851.
The Loans Expenditure previous to 1853 cannot be shown.

Exclusive of the overland traffic.
Includes 270,5437. proceeds of Treasury Bills, issued ander the Act of Council, 27th Vict., No. 8, to cover deficit of 1863 and previous years.
Includes 270,5437. proceeds of Treasury Bills, issued ander the Act of Council, 27th Vict., No. 8, to cover deficit of 1863 and previous years.
Includes 270,5437. proceeds of Treasury Bills, issued ander the Act of Council, 27th Vict., No. 8, to cover deficit of 1863 and previous years.
The Revenue and Expenditure columns include "Church and School Lands Revenue," "Police Reward Fund," "Police Superannuation Fund," and "Superannuation Fund, 27th Vict., No. 11.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 16.

No. 16.

EXTRACT from a DESPATCH from Governor the Right Hon. Sir John Young, Bart., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 69.)

My Lord,

Government House, Sydney, October 18, 1866.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Statistical Register of New South

Wales for the year 1865 (see page 22).

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

QUEENSLAND.

QUEENS-

No. 17.

No. 17.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C., M.G., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 38.)

SIR,

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland, July 2, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Statistical Register, or "Blue Book"

of the Colony of Queensland for the year 1865.

2. The annual report of the Registrar-General prefixed to the statistical tables is so full, and yet so concise, that it appears necessary for me, on the present occasion, to do little more than to solicit attention to it, and especially to the tabulated statements at pages 20 and 21, which will be found to exhibit a synopsis of the condition and progress of this Colony during the first six years (1860 to 1865, both inclusive) of its political existence.

3. In the speech with which I prorogued the last session of the Queensland Parliament I summed up the results of these statistics in the following terms:—"I feel much satis-" faction in renewing, on the present occasion, the congratulations on the rapid but solid progress of this Colony which I have now been enabled to address to you in closing the sessions of six successive years. Since the establishment of Queensland, in " December 1859, our European population has increased from less than 25,000 to nearly "90,000; that is, it has been augmented nearly fourfold; while our revenue and our trade (including imports and exports) have been more than trebled. The other chief elements of material prosperity have advanced in almost equal proportions. During " the same short period, cotton, sugar, and tobacco have been added to our lists of staple products; a line of new ports has been opened along our eastern seaboard from Keppel Bay to Cape York, a distance of 1,000 miles; while pastoral occupation has spread over an additional area at least four times larger than the area of the United Kingdom. In 1859 our settlers had hardly advanced beyond the Darling Downs to the west, or "beyond Rockhampton to the north. Now, in 1865, there are stations 700 miles to the west of Brisbane, and 800 miles to the north of Rockhampton. These facts, " derived from the official statistics, cannot fail to be interesting and instructive to our fellow-countrymen at home, while they must be to you, as they are to me, a subject of " honest pride and of devout thankfulness."

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

QUEENS-LAND

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE STATISTICAL REGISTER OF QUEENSLAND FOR THE YEAR 1865.

To the Honourable Robert Ramsay Mackenzie, Esq., Colonial Secretary, &c., &c.

Registrar-General's Office, Brisbane, June 11, 1866. I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for presentation to Parliament, "the Statistical Register of the Colony of Queensland, for the year ending the 31st December 1865," prefaced by the following explanatory and comparative remarks on the returns contained

Parliamentary Business.

The third session of the second Parliament of Queensland was opened by his Excellency the Governor, in person, on Tuesday, the 2nd May 1865, and was prorogued by his Excellency, in person, on Thursday, the 14th September following.

During this session five Bills were originated in the Legislative Council; of these Bills two were not returned from the Legislative Assembly, one was discharged from the paper, one was withdrawn, and one received his Excellency's assent. The Legislative

Council sat on 38 days.

In the Legislative Assembly 34 Bills were originated; of this number seven were discharged from the paper; two were superseded by question of "this day six months;" two were not agreed to by the Legislative Council; two were reserved by his Excellency the Governor for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure; and the remaining 21 received his Excellency's assent. The Legislative Assembly sat on 61 days; the average daily length of each sitting being five hours and one minute.

At page 22 of the Register is to be found an alphabetical register of all the above Bills, showing in which branch of the Legislature, and by which individual member

thereof, each was originated, and the manner in which it was disposed of; a detailed statement of the sessional business of the Legislative Assembly is published at page 23 of

the Register.

The number of members hitherto comprising the Legislative Assembly has been 26, but by the Additional Members Act of 1864 this number is increased by six, making the total number 32. The number of electorates has in like manner been increased from 16 to 22. The members returned by the newly-created electorates took their seats for the first time at the commencement of the session of 1865.

Population. ESTIMATED POPULATION of QUEENSLAND, on the 31st December 1865.

Males.	Females.	Persons.
53,297	34,478	87,775

The above estimate of the population is arrived at by adding to the assumed population of the 31st December 1864, the difference between the number of births and deaths which have been registered in the year 1865, and the number of persons who have, during the same period, entered the Colony in excess of the number who have left it. The first of these calculations is liable to error, from omissions to register births and deaths; the effect of the largest error at all likely to arise from this cause would be but small—for instance, omissions to register to the extent of 10 per cent. of all births and deaths taking place last year would occasion an error in the population of only about 150, improperly diminishing it to that extent. I need hardly point out, that any error

at all approaching the above is quite out of the question.

The second of the above calculations is liable to error from the impossibility of obtaining any records of the overland traffic across the frontier of Queensland and New South Wales; at the present time I believe the balance of this traffic is slightly in favour of the latter Colony, and that, therefore, from this cause the population would be estimated a trifle larger than it should be. As it thus appears that those two principal sources of error work in opposite directions, they necessarily in a great measure neutralize each other, and, therefore, the above estimate is probably exceedingly near the truth.

The estimated mean population of the year 1865 is 80,905 persons.

A. QUARTERLY RETURN of Additions to the Population, made during the Year 1865.

		Males.	Females.	Persons.
First Quarter.	Marie 1	United Sea		The feet was
Excess of births over deaths		102	207	309
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration -		1,246	918	2,164
				-,101
Increase during first quarter -	-	1,348	1,125	2,473
Second Quarter.				
Excess of births over deaths	-	233	237	470
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration -	-	778	996	1,774
Increase during second quarter	-	1,011	1,233	2,244
Increase during six months -		2,359	2,358	4,717
Third Quarter.				
Excess of births over deaths		249	300	549
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration .	36.	3,377	2,047	5,424
Increase during third quarter -		3,626	2,347	5,973
Increase during nine months -		5,985	4,705	10,690
Fourth Quarter.				
Excess of births over deaths		204	238	442
Increase from excess of immigration over emigration -	-	1,592	1,015	2,607
Increase during fourth quarter -		1,796	1,253	3,049
Total increase during 1865 -		7,781	5,958	13,739
Estimated population on 31st December 1864 -	-	45,516	28,520	74,036
Estimated population on 31st December 1865 -		53,297	34,478	87,775

N.B.—The arrivals per "Great Victoria," on the 31st December 1865, 629 in number, are included in the above, although she was not reported to the Customs until the present year.

During the year 1865, 13,739 persons have been added to the population, the centesimal increase during the year being at the rate of 18.55 per cent.; of this increase, 1,770 is derived from the excess of births over deaths, and 11,969 from the balance of arrivals and departures.

An approximate idea of the distribution of the population in a few of the principal police and registration districts, on the 31st December 1865, is arrived at in the following table, and is based on the supposition that the total number of names annually enrolled in the Register Book increases in the same ratio as the population increases, and that this applies equally well to particular districts as to the whole Colony. Taking the last census as the foundation, which stated the population on the 31st December 1863, to be 61,640, this mode of calculation makes the population of 31st December 1864 to have been 75,049,—(vide "Statistical Register" for that year;) and on the 31st December 1865, to have been 87,482, only differing from the estimate formed in the usual manner by 293 persons. The total result being so satisfactory, good grounds exist for believing that the estimated distribution is also tolerably correct:

B

Registratio	n Disti	ricts.		Estimated Population on the 31st December 1864, deduced from centesimal proportion of names registered.	Centesimal increase in the number of names registered.	Estimated Population on the 31st December 1865, deduced from centesimal increase in the number of names registered.
Brisbane -	-	-		23,557	25.81	29,637
Ipswich -	**	-	-	11,939	36.15	16,254
Rockhampton	-	-		5,273	6.56	5,618
Drayton -	-	-		5,369	35.29	7,263
Warwick -	-		-	5,157	-10.78	4,602
Maryborough	-	-		3,727	-12:06	3,278
All other districts	-			20,027	4.01	20,830
Total				75,049		87,482

On examination of the following tables, it will be seen that the increase to the population arising from the greater number of births than of deaths, is at the rate of 2.39 per cent.; this is slightly greater than it was in the year 1864, in which year it was at the rate of 2.33 per cent.

The births of the year 1865, compared with those of the year 1864, show an increase

at the rate of 20.71 per cent., and the deaths of the same year, compared in the same manner, show an increase at the rate of 18.53 per cent., the latter being almost the same as the centesimal increase in population, viz., 18.55 per cent.

C.

Table showing the Number of Births in the Years 1864 and 1865, also the Proportion of Females to Males born in each Year.

			1864.			1865.		Total Increase* or	Increase* or Decrease†	Females born	Females bor
District.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Decrease† in the latter Year.	per cent. in the latter Year.	to every 100 Males born in 1864.	to every 10 Males born in 1865.
Banana -	1	9	12	21	9 9	8 7	17 16	† 4 † 16	† 19.05	133.33	88.88
Brisbane -		569	538	1,107	705	692	1,397	*290	* 26.20	94.55	98.58
Broad Sound -	-	4	4	8	3	5	8			100.00	166.66
Cardwell -	-			-	3	1	4	* 4		_	33.33
Condamine -	-	7	5	12	11	10	21	* 9	* 75.00	_	90.99
Dalby	- 2	46	39	85	70	60	130	* 45	* 52.95	84.78	85.71
Drayton -	-	118	124	242	156	145	301	* 59	* 24.34	105.08	92.30
Gayndah -	-	46	43	89	39	48	87	† 2	† 2.25	93.48	123.08
Goondiwindi -	-	11	6	17	14	13	27	* 10	* 58.82	54.55	92.86
Ipswich -	-	229	201	430	287	277	564	*134	* 32.55	87.77	96.52
Kennedy -		21	29	50	-			_	-	_	
Leyburn -	-				7	7	14	* 14		_	100.00
Mackay -				-	6	9	15	* 15			150.00
Mount Abundance	-	11	7	18	17	15	32	* 14	* 77.78	63.64	88.24
Nanango -	-	7	9	16	9	6	15	† 1	† 6.25	128.57	66 • 67
North Cook -	-				1	1	2	2	_	×	100.00
Peak Downs -	-	4	7	11	10	12	22	* 11	*100.00	175.00	120.00
Port Curtis -	-	19	15	34	27	14	41		* 20.59	78.95	51.85
Princhester -	-	1	1	2		1	1	* 1	† 50.00	100.00	-
Rockhampton -	-	145	145	290	166	168	334	4.4	* 15.17	100.00	101.20
St. George -	7 . 7				4	10	14	4.4	4 11 11	250.00	250.00
Springsure -		2	7	9	6	2	8	† 1	† 11.11	350·00 84·62	33.33
Surat	-	13	11	24	5 10	3	8 24	† 16 * 15	† 16.66 † 38.46	69.57	140.00
Taroom -	-	23	16	39	10	14	3	* 3	7 38.46	The state of the s	50.00
Warrego -	-			200	85	88	173	† 30	+ 14.78	118.28	13.51
Warwick -		93	110	203 176	90	88	173	1 00	† 1.13	87.23	93.33
Vide Bay - Voogaroo -	•	94	82		13	15	28	† 2 * 28	1.13	- 87.23	115.38
Total -	-	1,472	1,411	2,883	1,764	1,716	3,480	*597	* 20.70	95.86	97.28

D

Table showing the Number of Deaths in the Years 1864 and 1865, also the Proportion of Females to Males who died in each Year.

				1864.			1865.		Total Increase * or		Number of Deaths of Females	Number of Deaths of Females
District	t.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Decrease † in the latter Year.	per cent. in the latter Year.	to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1864.	to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1865.
Banana -			5	2	7	10	2	12	* 5	* 71.43	40.00	20.00
Bowen 1 -		-	-		-	11	4	15	* 15			36.36
Brisbane		-	319	245	564	400	348	748	*184	* 32.62	76.80	87.00
Broad Sound		-	8	2	10	3	3	6	† 4	† 40.00	†25.00	100.00
Cardwell 1		-				8	-	8	* 8	_		
Condamine		-	10	7	17	1		1	† 16	† 94.12	70.00	-
Dalby -		-	22	6	28	17	15	32	* 4	* 14.29	27 · 27	88.24
Drayton		-	50	28	78	70	45	115	* 37	* 47.43	56.00	64 · 29
Gayndah	_	-	46	9	55	28	12	40	† 15	† 27.27	19.57	42.86
Goondiwindi	-	-	3	1	4	5	1	6	* 2	* 50.00	33.33	20.00
[pswich -	-	-	120	98	218	131	129	260	* 42	* 19.26	81.67	98.47
Kennedy		-	29	9	38	_	_	_		_	31:03	
Leyburn 1		-	_			2	3	5	* 5		_	150.00
Mackay -	-	-	_	_	-	3	_	3	* 3	_		_
Mount Abundar	nce		19	3	22	15	6	21	† 1	† 4.45	15.79	40.00
Nanango	-	-	4	2	6	4	_	4	† 2	† 33.33	50.00	_
North Cook 1	-	-	_	_	_	-	1	1	- 180		_	_
Peak Downs	-	-	24	4	28	28	11	39	* 11	* 39.29	16.67	39.28
Port Curtis	-	-	7	8	15	9	5	14	† 1	+ 60.60	114.29	55.55
Princhester	-	-	5	1	6	4	2	6	_		20.00	50.00
Rockhampton	-	-	102	56	158	112	92	204	* 46	* 29.11	54.90	†82.14
St. George	-	-		_	_	10		10	_		_	
Springsure	-	-	9	4	13	6	6	12	† 1	† 7.69	44.44	100.00
Surat -	~	-	7	4	11	3	2	5	† 6	+ 54.54	57.14	66.66
Taroom -	-	-	11	2	13	8	2	10	† 3	† 23.07	18.18	*40.00
Warrego 1	-	-	_	_	_	9	1	10	* 10	_		11.11
Warwick		-	50	26	76	29	16	45	† 31	† 40.78	52.00	55.17
Wide Bay		-	50	29	79	42	28	70	† 9	† 11.39	58.00	66.66
Woogaroo			_	-	-	8	4	12	* 12	-	-	50.00
Total			900	546	1,446	976	738	1,714	*268	* 18.53	60.67	75.61

¹ New districts created by the subdivision of former districts.

E.

Table comparing the Deaths of the Year 1865 with the Births of the same Year.

Distr	ict.		Deaths in 1865.	Births in 1865.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Deaths have centesimally increased faster* or slower † than Births.
Banana			~ ~	17	8		* 9.52
Bowen 1 -		-		16	1	_	
Brisbane			1 10	1,397	649		† 6.42
Broad Sound -			6	8	2		_
Cardwell 1 -			8	4		4	_
Condamine -			1	21	20		† 19.12
Dalby			32	130	98		† 38.66
Drayton			115	301	186		† 23.09
Gayndah · -		-	40	87	47		+ 25.02
Goondiwindi -			6	27	21		† 8.82
Ipswich		-	260	564	304		† 13.29
Kennedy						_	
Leyburn 1			5	14	9		
Mackay 1		-	3	15	12	_	_
Mount Abundance			21	32	11		† 73.23
Nanango			4	15	11		+ 27.08
North Cook 1 -			1	2	1		
Peak Downs -	Turble.		39	22	T T	17	* 61.61
Port Curtis -	43.8			41	27		† 40.01
Princhester -			6	1	·	5	_
Rockhampton -			204	334	130		† 13.94
St. George 1 -			10	14	4	The second	1
Springsure -			12	8		4	† 3.42
Surat -			5	8	3		† 12.12
Taroom			10	24	14		† 15.39
Warrego 1 -				3		7	1 20 00
Warwick			1 12	173	128	4	† 26.00
Wide Bay			-	174	104	8 8 3	† 10.26
Woogaroo 1 -		-	10	28	16	4 -	-
Total -	a ka	-	1,714	3,480	1,766	37	† 2.37

¹ New districts created by the subdivision of former districts.

F.

TABLE showing the Number of Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age, registered in the Years 1864, 1865.

					1864.			1865.		Increase* or Decrease†	Increase* or Decrease† in the	Total Increase* or Decreaset
	District.			Below Two Years,	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.	Below Two Years.	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.	in the Deaths of Children below Two Years of Age.	Two Years	in the Deaths of Children below Five Years of Age.
Banana -		-	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	* 1		* 1
Bowen -	-	-	-	5	2	7	3	2	5	† 2	_	* 2
Brisbane -	-		-	230	55	285	408	39	447	*178	† 16	†162
Broad Sound	-	-	-	2	2	4	1	_	1	† 1		3
Cardwell -	- /	-	-	1	-	1	2		2	* 1	_	* 1
Condamine		-	_	3	2	5		_	-	† 3	_	† 5
Dalby -	-	-	-	7	2	9	9	1	10	* 2	+ 1	* 1
Drayton -	1 - 0	-	-	29	2	31	50	15	65	* 21	* 13	* 34
Gayndah -		-	-	11	4	15	18	1 2 2 2	18	* 7		* 3
Goondiwindi			-	2	1 - 1	2		-	_	+ 2		† 2
Ipswich	-	-	-	89	20	109	116	27	143	* 27	* 7	* 34
Leyburn -			-			_	3		3	* 3		* 3
Mackay -		-		-	_		_					_
Mount Abune	lance	-	-		2	2	7		7	* 7	7	* 5
Nanango -		-	_	5	1	6				† 5		† 6
North Cook				_	- 3		1		1	* 1		* 1
Peak Downs	-	-	-	4		4	5	3	8	* 1	* 3	* 4
Port Curtis		-		5	-	5	2	0	2	+ 3		† 3
Princhester			-	1	1	2	1		1	1 0	+ 1	† 1
Rockhampton	-			57	10	67	99	15	114	* 42	* 15	* 47
St. George	1.	012	-	3	10	3	1	13	1	† 2	10 .	† 2
Springsure		-		4	1	5	4		4	1 2	+ 1	+ 1
Surat -	-	_		i		1			*	† 1	1	+ 1
Taroom -	The second	-		4	-	4	2		2	+ 2		† 2
Warrego -	1442		_	_	_		2		2	* 2		* 2
Warwick -	-	-	-	24	9	33	11	5	16	† 13	† 4	+ 17
Wide Bay	_			32	6	38	27	4	31	+ 5	+ 2	+ 7
Woogaroo		-		-	_	_	6	-	6	* 6	-	* 6
	Totals		-	520	119	639	780	111	891	*260	† 8	*252

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

QUEENS-LAND. G.

Table showing the Number of Marriages celebrated in each of the Years 1864 and 1865.

And all of the control of the contro	Distr	ict.		Church of England.	Church of Rome.	Presbyterian.	Wesleyan Methodist.	Primitive Methodist.	United Methodist Free Church.	Congregational.	Baptist and Particular Baptist.	Lutheran.	Registration Act.	Total, 1864.	Total, 1865.
Banana	•	-	$-{1864 \atop 1865}$	Ξ	=	Ξ	=	=	=	=	1	=	3 2	4	2
Bowen		-	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	No No	6 return.	14	-	-		-	-	-	15	37	
Brisbane	-1		$-{1864 \atop 1865}$	71 68	79 100	83 103	24 24	13 17	12	9	9 19	28 44	26 30	354	424
Broad Sound			$-{1864 \atop 1865}$	_	=	=	=	=	=	Ξ	=	<u>-</u>	1	1	1
Cardwell			$-{1864 \atop 1865}$	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	1	1	1
Condamine		•	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	5 4	6	4
Dalby -		*	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	10	7 3	1	=	=	=	5 14	=	_	4	26	21
Drayton and	Toowoo	omba	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	6 14	16 27	3 14	8 9	=	=	15 14	=	9	3	61	91
Gayndah		(-	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	1	4	1	=	=	=	=	17 19	=	8	28	29
Goondiwindi	•		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	2	1	1 -	_	=	=	=	=		3 2	4	5
Ipswich			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	18 29	50 91	20 29	23 18	=	_	5 3	6	2	14 16	138	194
Leyburn	•		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	2	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	Ξ	7	7	2
Mackay			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	=	=		-	Ξ	=	11 6	11	11
Mount Abund	lance	•	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	5 2	=	=	Ξ	=	-	=	=	8	2	10
Nanango	•	•	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	1	=	=	=	=	=	_	Z	=	-	-	=
North Cook		-	$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	=		Ξ	=	=	_			=
Peak Downs	•		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	_	7 9	9	7
Port Curtis			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	=	=	=	Ξ	=	=	6	1	6
Princhester	10 N		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	Ξ	=	=	=	=	- 1	1 3	142	1
Rockhampton	•		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	14 15	43 48	51 30	=	15 22	=	14 3	2		1	-	121
St. George	-		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	_	2	Ξ	2
Springsure	•		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	_	3 5	6	4
Surat -	-		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	_	2	6	2
Taroom	-		$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	5	=	=	=) = 1	=	=		_	i -	-	2
Townsville			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	=	Ξ	=	=	Ξ		=	=	=	3	=	3
Warrego	-	-	-{\frac{1864}{1865}	_	=	=	2	=	=	=	Ξ	_	1 4	46	1
Warwick	* 12		-{\begin{align*} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{align*}	18 15	11 22	5	2 10	=	=	=	13	<u> </u>	1 2	59	45
Wide Bay			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	8 7	15	10 7	8	=	=	=	7	7 <u>-</u>	2 -	-	42
Woogaroo			$-\begin{cases} 1864 \\ 1865 \end{cases}$	二		Ξ	=	_	1	3	=	_	=	=	3
	m		J 1864	154	237	194	67	28	12	48	48	40	123	951	-
	Total		1865	158	305	190	61	39	3	53	53	56	116	-	1,034

Referring to above Table F., it appears that the deaths throughout the whole Colony of children below two years of age are, in the year 1865, exactly 50 per cent. more numerous than they were in the year 1864. In the Registration District of Brisbane the deaths of children below two years old have increased 77·39 per cent.; in Rockhampton District, 73·68 per cent.; in Ipswich District, 30·34 per cent.; in Drayton District, 72·41 per cent. There can be very little doubt that this excessive infantine mortality is to be attributed to the large number of deaths among the children of the newly-arrived immigrants; to whatever cause attributable, there is unfortunately no doubt that the deaths of infants, extremely numerous in former years, have during the year 1865 increased by one-half. Comparing this infantine mortality with the total deaths of the Colony, it appears that out of each 100 deaths 45·51 are of children under two years of age, and 51·98, or more than one half, of children under five years old.

Immigration.

A greater number of immigrants from the United Kingdom, or from Europe, i.e. Germany, landed in the Colony last year, than during any former year. The following is an abstract from the Immigration returns:—

		1			Males.	Females.	Total.	Statute Adults
Landed from Ditto Ditto	Commissioners' Blackwall German	ships ditto ditto			768 5,933 1,091	717 3,561 680	1,485 9,494 1,771	1,350 8,375 1,491
E Viving	Total	11-1	-	- "	7,792	4,958	12,750	11,216

The contract price per statute adult paid by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners for the transport of emigrants to Queensland during the past year is as follows:—

ion franchista and days			£	S.	d.	
Ship "Charlie Palmer"		-	12	16	0 per	statute adult.
Ship "Hannah More"	-		12	19		ditto.
Ship "Lobelia" -		0.	13	8	0	ditto.
Ship "Golconda" -			13	4	3	ditto.
Ship "Venilia" -	-		13	14	0	ditto.
The average rate being	-	-	13	4	3.60	ditto.

Although 12,750 persons have, according to the Immigration returns, been introduced into the Colony from Europe during the past year, it appears from the quarterly returns of arrivals and departures by sea from all quarters, compiled by the Customs, that the total gain to the population by water is only 11,969; it follows, therefore, that by intercolonial emigration this Colony has, during the year 1865, lost about 781 persons from its population. The following is an abstract from the returns of arrivals and departures above referred to:—

TABLE of ARRIVALS and DEPARTURES by SEA.

1865.			1		A	rriva	ls.								Dej	parti	ires.				90 .
	Brisbane.	Broad Sound.	Cardwell.	Mackay.	Maryborough.	Port Albany.	Port Curtis.	Port Denison.	Rockhampton.	Total Arrivals.	Brisbane.	Broad Sound.	Cardwell.	Mackay.	Maryborough.	Port Albany.	Port Curtis.	Port Denison.	Rockhampton.	Total Departures.	Excess of Arrivals over Departures.
Males above 14 years - Males under 14 years -	11,929 1,463	=	Ξ	=	280 30	=	46	471 82	1,439 173	14,165 1,754	7,235 140	-	=	=	13 2	=	9	100	1,374 49	8,731 197	5,434
Total Males -	13,392	-		-	310	-	52	553	1,612	15,919	7,375	-	_	_	15	=	10	105	1,423	8,928	6,99
Females above 14 years Females under 14 years	4,399 1,262	=	=	=	149 24	=	20 6	295 101	541 139	5,404 1,532	1,527 154	=	=	=	1 1	=	5 2	33	189 42	1,755 203	3,646
Total Females -	5,661	_	-	_	173	-	26	396	680	6,936	1,681	-	_	_	2	_	7	37	231	1,958	4,97
Total Persons -	19,053	-	-	-	483	-	78	949	2,292	22,855	9,056	-	-	=	17	_	17	142	1,654	10,886	11,969

The arrivals per ship "Great Victoria," 629 in number, are included in these Returns, as she anchored in Moreton Bay on the 31st December 1865, although not reported to the Customs for some days after.

QUEENS-LAND.

On the 31st December 1864 the population of the Colony consisted of 45,516 males and 28,520 females, the proportion being 62.66 females to each 100 males. On the 31st December 1865 it consisted of 53,297 males and 34,478 females, the proportion being 64.69 females to each 100 males.

The records of the Registration Office show that in the year's increase to the population, attributable to the greater number of births than of deaths, the females are in the proportion of 124.87 to each 100 males; and the Immigration tables give the following

proportion of sexes in the arrivals of the year :-

93.36 females to 100 males. Ex Commissioners' ships 100 60.02 Ex Black Ball ships -62.33 100 Ex German ships

The improvement observable in the proportion of the sexes is probably attributable to the smaller number of female departures than of female arrivals from the neighbouring colonies. The total results of the year's European immigration, which only gives 63.63 females to each 100 males arrived, does not add much to the former proportion of females in the Colony, and the number of births and deaths registered in the year, although the proportion of females is great, is too small materially to affect the

The amount of emigration remittances received by the Queensland Government during the past year was 5,620l. 1s.; this is a slight increase on the amount received in

the year 1864, which was 4,911l. 1s. 4d.

It is very difficult to arrive at the true amount paid by this Colony for immigration;

the following items will, however, form data for an approximation.

There were, during the year 1865, 1,350 statute adults landed from Commissioners ships, the average rates at which these ships were chartered being 13l. 4s. 3.60d. per head; to the total expenditure thus arising is to be added the sum of 3,324l. 19s. 1d., being the amount debited to this Colony by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners,

for charges and various contingent expenses paid during the above year.

The passages of immigrants forwarded by the Agent-General for emigration are paid for at the rate of 15l. per statute adult, and the shipowners, Messrs. Mackay and Co., who have contracted for the sole conveyance of emigrants to Queensland, have agreed to receive payment one half in cash, and one half in 18l. land orders, valued at 15l., at which value the Government have agreed to buy them from Messrs. Mackay and Co. any time after the expiration of six months from the date of embarkation of the emigrants in part payment of whose passages they were given. The number of statute adults who arrived during the year 1865 under this system was 8,375; to the outlay thus arising must be added 12,015l. 4s. 7d., being the year's cost of the Agent-General's department in the United Kingdom.

From German ships during the year 1865 have been landed 1,491 statute adults, for each of whose passages an 181. land order has in each case been paid, without any further

expense being incurred on their account.

If to the various sums expended as above be added the year's expenditure of the Immigration Department in Queensland, amounting, exclusive of buildings, to 12,410l. 18s. 1d., a tolerably correct idea may be formed of the sum expended on

immigration during the year 1865.

It may, however, be remarked that up to the 31st December 1865 the Government had not been called on by Messrs. Mackay and Co. to redeem any of the land orders issued to them in payment for immigrants landed from their ships. They have doubtless sold them at a higher price than the Government is bound to buy them at, and have probably been received by the Treasury in payment for land purchased from the Crown. In other words, they have been redeemed by a land payment instead of a cash payment.

Education.

The returns compiled by the General Inspector of Primary Schools, under the supervision of the Board of General Education, vide page 92 of the Register, show a considerable increase, both in the number of schools and of pupils attending. In the year 1864 the number of schools open was 24, with a daily average attendance of pupils amounting to 2,171.5; in the year 1865 the schools numbered 31, and the average attendance of pupils was 2,981.4, the increase in the latter being at the rate of 37.31 per cent.

The total expenditure, exclusive of the cost of buildings on account of the above

schools, in 1865, was 6,598l. 9s. 9d.; the average cost per head of pupils being 2l. 4s. 3.24d.

QUEENS-LAND.

In 1864 the total expenditure was 4,673l. 19s. 4d., being at the rate of 2l. 3s. 0.69d. per head.

The return of private schools shows a slight increase on the number of the year 1864, the relative number of schools being, in 1864, 65; in 1865, 70; and the number of pupils being, in 1864, 2,408; in 1865, 2,708. In spite of the favourable aspect of the above figures, there are many districts without any schools, and children in great numbers are growing up in the distant parts of the Colony in the greatest ignorance. This seems, under existing circumstances, to be an almost irremediable evil, only to be cured in time by a denser population. It will be recollected that a population of less than 100,000 souls is now sparsely scattered over a territory five times larger than the United Kingdom

A large proportion of the schools under the supervision of the Board of General Education, and the most numerously attended, are situated within the boundaries of the police districts of Brisbane and Ipswich. If they be deducted from the total numbers, the remainder scattered over the other parts of the Colony are few indeed in number:—

Company of the second					Schools.	Average Attendance.
Police District of Brisbane	239819	Algorithms		•	12	1,523 · 8
Police District of Ipswich					5	42 · 9
Total					17	1,966.7

Leaving only 14 schools, with an average attendance of 1,014.7 pupils for the remainder of the Colony.

Crime.

RETURN OF PERSONS TRIED, ACQUITTED, OF CONVICTED before the CENTRAL CRIMINAL OF CIRCUIT COURTS, in the Year 1865.

Offences.	Brisbane.	Ipswich.	Too- woomba.	Mary- borough.	Rock- hampton.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
Murder	.1		_	1	1	1	2	3
Other offences against the person	9	5	6		6	9	17	26
All other offences	25	14	23	10	35.	27	80	107
Total -	35	19	29	11	. 42	37	99	136

RETURN of PERSONS taken into CUSTODY, COMMITTED for TRIAL, CONVICTED SUMMARILY, or DISCHARGED by the COURTS of PETTY SESSIONS throughout the Colony, in the Year 1865.

		Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.	Discharged.	Total.
For offences against person		379	53	199	127	379
For offences against property		845	148	334	363	845
For breaches of Merchant Seamen's Act		160	-	136	24	160
For offences under Master and Servant's Act	-	91	- <u>-</u>	55	36	91
For drunkenness		2,646	-	2,076	570	2,646
For vagrancy	-	463	-	362	101	463
All other offences		501	13	334	154	501
Total for the Year -	-	5,085	214	3,496	1,375	5,085

QUEENS-

A great addition will be observed to have taken place in the number of persons tried before the Central Criminal or Circuit Courts. In 1864 the number was 94; in 1865 it was 136, the increase in the latter year being at the rate of 44.68 per cent. It will also be observed that a far larger proportion of persons tried were found guilty in the latter than in the former year, the convicted being in the one instance in the proportion of 72.8, and in the other 64.89, per cent. of the persons tried. The proportion which the number of persons finally convicted by the Central Criminal or Circuit Courts bears to the number committed by the Courts of Petty Sessions to take their trials before those tribunals was, in 1864, 34.46 per cent.; in 1865 it was 46.26 per cent. The number of persons tried for offences against the person, including murder, is within one the same in each of the years 1864 and 1865. To those tried, therefore, each year for other offences, viz., offences against property, is to be attributed all the increase already pointed out in the number of persons tried.

The number of persons taken into custody by the police, and dealt with by the Courts of Petty Sessions, has for the last three years regularly and greatly increased. In 1863 the proportion of persons taken into custody was 5.44 to each 100 persons in the Colony; in 1864 the proportion was 5.73 to each 100 persons; in 1865 the proportion was 5.79. Numerically, the increase in persons taken into custody during the latter year is 1,207; the total number in 1865 being 5,085. Of these 3,496 were summarily convicted, 214 were committed to take their trials before the higher courts of the Colony, and 1,375 were discharged.

Of the total number of persons taken into custody 124 have received superior educations, 4,065 can read and write, 225 can read only, and 671 can neither read nor

write.

A further increase has taken place in the number of licensed public-houses. In 1864 the total number in the Colony was 347; in 1865 it was 365; the largest proportion of this increase is to be found in the police district of Brisbane, where the number has risen from 90 to 102.

Banks.

By reference to the following table it will be seen that the aggregate number of notes in circulation by all the banks on the last quarter of the year 1865, represented the sum of 181,615l. 2s. 4d. This is an increase on the corresponding quarter of the year 1864 of 43,815l. 18s. 11d., the centesimal rate of increase being 31.79 per cent. It further appears that bills in circulation have increased by the sum of 2,661l. 19s. 4d., or at the rate of 11.88 per cent.; that deposits have increased by the sum of 13,758l. 9s. 5d., or at the rate of 1.82 per cent.; that coin has increased by the sum of 14,513l. 15s. 5d., or at the rate of 60.09 per cent.; that bullion has diminished by the sum of 8,119l. 18s. 6d., at the rate of 60.09 per cent.; and that discounts have increased by the very large sum of 452,019l. 9s. 3d., or at the rate of 28.70 per cent. To estimate these changes more accurately, it must be borne in mind that the population has increased during the same year, 1865, at the rate of 18.55 per cent.

			LIABILITI	ES.						ASSETS.			
Quarters of the Year.	Year.	Notes in Circulation.	Bills in Circulation.	Balances due to other Banks.	Deposits.	Total Liabilities.	Coin.	Bullion.	Landed Property.	Notes and Bills of other Banks.	Balances due from other Banks and Branches.	Notes and Bills discounted, and all other Debts due to the Banks.	Total Assets.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.
	1860	32,734 16 6	2,419 7 7	57,161 1 5	166,574 10 6	258,889 16 0	52,677 3 1	Nil.	7,172 5 2	4,804 18 8	1,166 11 5	390,250 8 9	456,071 7 1
	1861	46,975 11 8	2,889 5 2	52 18 1	310,842 6 3	360,760 1 2	66,225 3 4	51 8 6	14,235 17 7	1,290 15 10	5,374 10 8	558,895 5 5	596,073 1 4
First Quarter	1862	78,110 10 1	5,710 7 5		310,843 1 1	395,390 11 9	86,015 14 5	113 15 3	19,491 5 1	1,860 1 2	5,965 10 8	630,686 12 11	744,132 19 6
	1863	89,165 12 10	9,971 0 0		368,348 19 11	570,120 12 0	108,455 19 4	Nil.	27,283 12 4	3,917 3 1	2,226 7 11	789,239 8 3	931,122 10 11
	1864	122,916 3 4	16,126 13 3	180,371 18 10	568,318 9 7	887,733 14 5	160,162 3 4	553 18 1	36,007 8 10	8,579 12 1	7,694 16 1	1,234,653 16 10	1,447,651 15 3
	1865	172,615 16 3	20,320 7 2	19,271 12 10	754,360 7 10	966,567 14 1	177,809 17 6	19,222 2 11	41,671 10 0	15,746 7 6	12,292 18 6	1,630,792 6 0	1,897,535 2 5
	1860	35,744 19 11	2,596 7 10	47 17 1	182,435 4 5	220,824 9 3	58,385 2 11	39 11 5	7,946 19 0	1,694 19 11	2,844 16 1	420,138 16 4	491,050 5 8
	1861	52,143 9 2	3,451 3 7	778 10 0	267,351 16 8	323,724 19 5	71,292 1 7	43 12 6	16,363 6 10	1,672 9 8	6,901 19 2	504,818 1 4	611,091 11 1
Second Quarter	1862	80,773 11 5	7,284 14 11	595 11 5	314,769 17 11	403,423 15 8	90,691 5 3	Nil.	21,415 9 10	2,477 7 8	4,149 1 11	652,029 8 4	770,762 13 0
	1863	93,078 5 5	12,983 12 9	1,880 15 7	412,591 16 7	520,534 10 4	114,641 6 6	Nil.	29,197 6 9	4,248 13 11	2,334 8 8	891,873 7 11	,042,295 3 9
	1864	129,518 19 5	20,398 15 6	16,436 18 0	675,020 15 1	841,375 8 0	206,064 15 1	1,372 14 7	35,820 17 11	7,881 2 7	11,849 3 4	1,286,689 3 2	,549,677 16 8
	1865	170,209 17 8	23,055 2 1	24,318 4 10	756,613 13 11	971,196 18 9	180,961 17 11	7,561 1 5	44,901 2 9	10,669 5 6	14,910 12 9	1,674,249 3 5	,933,253 3 9
	1860	39,963 3 5	7,920 3 3	18 7 8	236,337 5 0	284,238 19 4	61,289 13 10	86 8 1	11,996 18 3	1,289 11 11	4.730 17 11	472,537 11 4	551,931 1 4
La La La	1861	56,773 6 3	3,617 13 0	5,024 9 1	266,700 10 9	332,115 19 1	78,869 2 2	46 1 4	16,475 6 1			590,308 7 10	691,572 6 0
Third Quarter -	1862	79,599 11 5	18,468 15 7	941 17 11	344,542 14 3	443,552 19 2	96,166 2 4	Nil.	21,709 0 11	2,337 18 6	5,813 6 1	683,862 15 9	809,889 3 7
1	1863	98,201 7 10	20,382 3 9	7,007 9 1	435,877 1 2	561,468 1 10	117,332 16 5	8 7 4	32,118 7 4	3,913 12 5	5,425 18 3	998,726 19 5 1	,157,526 1 2
	1864	141,629 16 3	28,180 0 7	25,433 4 3	672,435 19 11	867,679 1 0	201,904 19 10	6,256 4 7	36,022 1 8	8,615 15 6	13,592 16 3	1,427,928 7 2 1	,694,320 5 0
	1865	174,394 4 10	21,154 15 6	26,996 9 5	780,845 3 6	1,013,390 13 3	196,134 19 1	4,810 6 9	49,159 17 10	8,201 0 8	17,493 0 5	1,858,005 19 10 2	,133,805 4 7
(1860	42,765 11 8	2,473 18 11	17 2 10	286,917 1 4	332,173 14 9	63,843 6 7	43 14 11	13,749 18 8	1,293 14 9	4,870 4 4	490,860 2 5	574,661 1 8
	1861	63,104 12 4	4,499 17 5		322,310 5 5	390,238 0 5	84,916 8 6	40 8 6		1,527 7 3			730,917 19 0
Fourth Quarter	1862	87,103 4 10	11,903 6 0		341,155 8 8	442,245 16 10	105,268 11 6	Nil.		A SHIP OF THE REAL PROPERTY.	4,107 1 10	751,678 5 10	888,879 2 11
Coursi Quarter	1863	107,634 1 10	14,351 5 10		472,765 16 0	598,941 0 1		1,253 7 6		SA WITH THE REAL PROPERTY.			235,961 1 2
	1864	137,799 3 5	22,398 11 11		757,153 19 4	928,409 3 0			38,874 19 11 1				825,782 14 6
	1865	181,615 2 4	25,060 11 3			1,000,924 10 0	100	5,390 1 9					281,461 0 3

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Crown Lands.

The following is a return of Crown Lands sold, granted, or leased during the year 1865:—

			A.	R. P.
Sold by auction -			36,058	0 22.8
Sold without public competition		3.	102,796	3 38
Sold within agricultural reserves			6,944	
Total sold in 1865 -	5		145,799	2 38.8
Leased during the year 1 -			7,578	
Leased during the year ¹ - Granted for special purposes -			933	1 28

¹ Note.—Lands situated within agricultural reserves.

Compared with the sales of Crown Lands effected in the year 1864, the above return shows an increase in the sales effected in the year 1865 of 5,985 acres 1 rood 18·1 perches, being at the rate of 4·28 per cent.; the money realized by the sale of Crown Lands in each of the above years is as follows:—

1864 - - £210,725 18 5 1865 - - 224,403 15 6 Increase in 1865 - £13,677 17 1

being at the rate of 6.09 per cent.

The following table shows the quantity of land sold by public auction in each Commissioner's district in each of the years 1864 and 1865:—

	Moreton.	Darling Downs.	Port Curtis.	Wide Bay and Burnett.	Kennedy.	Leichhardt.	Maranoa.	Total.
1864	A. R. P. 25,508 1 23½	A. R. P. 5,652 2 22½	A. R. P. 4,809 0 13½	A. R. P. 1,518 0 21	A. R. P. 3,676 0 33	A. R. P. 9 0 0	A. R. P. 21 0 0	A. R. P. 41,194 1 334
1865	23,435 0 39.05	5,967 2 01/4	1,850 3 29	2,038 0 11	2,261 0 39	237 2 14	267 2 101	36,058 0 22.8

It appears that 5,136 acres 1 rood 10.45 perches less land was sold by auction in the year 1865 than in the year 1864, but, on the other hand, the non-competitive purchases of the year 1865 exceeded those of the year 1864 by 11,121 acres 2 roods 29.5 perches.

The total quantity of land within the Colony of Queensland alienated in fee by the Crown since the foundation of the Colony was, on the 31st December 1864, 355,249 acres 1 rood 0.75 perches; if to this quantity be added the quantity alienated last year, the total quantity in fee since the foundation of the Colony, to the 31st December 1865, will be 501,982 acres 1 rood 27.55 perches. The total quantity of land alienated in fee by the Crown before and since separation, up to the 31st December 1865, is 580,034 acres 1 rood 32.3 perches, of this quantity, 426,833 acres 1 rood 10.2 perches is under the provisions of the "Real Property Act of 1861."

Shipping.

It will be seen by reference to the following table, that a large increase has taken place during the year 1865 in the number and tonnage of ships trading to and from the Colony of Queensland:—

		Entered inwards.			Cleared outwards	•
Year.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1864 1865	- 431 - 497	129,687 173,227	9,265 12,294	396 488	116,702 167,153	8,352 11,791
Numerical increase -	- 66	43,540	3,029	92	50,451	3,439
Centesimal increase -	- 15.31	33.57	32.69	23 · 23	43.23	41.17

The nationality of the ships trading to and from Queensland, during the year 1865, is distinguished in the following table:—

QUEENS-

Nationality.				Entered inwards		Cleared outwards.			
			Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	
Great Britain		1	47	38,305	1,411	37	30,194	797	
Germany -	-	-	7	3,575	112	7	3,575	104	
British Possessions	-	-	443	131,347	10,771	443	132,141	10,862	
South America	PARTY.	-			-	1 .	1,243	28	
Total	1		497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791	

And the country from or to which the above ships have arrived or departed is as follows:—

Countries whence a		or		Entered inwards		Cleared outwards.			
whither depart	ted.		Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	
Great Britain	-		42	37,699	1,378	6	4,573	133	
Germany -	-	-	5	3,142	92	_	-,010	100	
New South Wales	-	-	391	121,890	10,334	427	134,766	10,851	
Victoria -	-		12	2,061	98	11	1,397	75	
Tasmania -	-	-	18	2,624	129	5	844	36	
South Australia	-	-	20	3,560	164	2	243	13	
New Zealand	-	-	5	1,651	68	6	2,367	93	
New Caledonia	-	-	2	245	13	1	103	9	
South America	-	-	1	227	10	14	15,363	335	
India, British		-	-		-	1	930	30	
Singapore -	-	-	-	-		5	2,540	81	
Ceylon -		-		-	_	1	1,920	39	
China -	-	-	_	_	_	2	711	27	
South Sea Islands	-	-	-	_	-	1	20	6	
Navigator's Islands	-	-	-	-	-	1	366	12	
Dutch East Indies	1-	-	_	_	-	2	209	18	
Bird Island -	-	-	1	128	8	-			
Guam -		-			-	3	801	33	
Total	-	-	497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791	

Trade.

The estimated value of the total imports and exports to and from the Colony of Queensland, during the year 1865, is as follows:—

Imports		-	- £2,505,559
Exports		149	- 1,153,464
	Total Trade		- £3,659,023

Compared with the trade of 1864, the imports of the year 1865 show an increase in their estimated value of 237,605l., being at the rate of 10.47 per cent. Exports, on the other hand, show a decrease of 93,590l., being at the rate of 7.50 per cent. The total

trade has increased by 134,015l., being at the rate of 3.80 per cent.

The above diminution in the last year's exports is traceable to the comparatively small quantity of wool shipped. This, as the number of sheep has by no means diminished, is probably to be accounted for, either by delays in its carriage to the several ports of shipment, occasioning considerable quantities to be shipped after the 31st December 1865—when it would, of course, be thrown into the shipments of the year 1866—or to a larger quantity of wool in grease having been shipped in 1864 than in 1865. Unfortunately under existing regulations, there appears to be much difficulty in distinguishing between the shipment of greasy or of washed wool. Until means are taken to enable this distinction to be made, the returns of the export of that staple will be more or less unreliable, the greater weight and smaller value per pound of unwashed than of washed wool disturbing the calculations. An examination of the shipments of wool for the last three years, as given in the following table, shows pretty conclusively that, either from delays in the shipments properly belonging to the year 1863, or in greater promptitude than usual in

QUEENS-

those in 1864, or from the preponderence of greasy wool in the latter year, that year is credited with more than its due proportion of the three years' produce of wool.

EXPORTS of WOOL.

Years.		To Great	Britain.	To New Son	ith Wales.	Total.		
		lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	
1860 -	-			5,007,167	444,188	5,007,167	444,188	
1861 -	-	1,415,991	109,425	5,578,042	503,649	6,994,033	613,074	
1862 -	-	2,522,662	195,506	5,540,950	431,676	8,063,612	627,182	
1863 -	issi	2,502,064	213,688	8,166,980	563,088	10,669,044	776,776	
1864 -	-	3,932,715	337,818	10,074,074	699,845	14,006,789	1,037,663	
1865 -	-	2,507,579	197,826	9,744,262	687,473	12,251,841	885,299	

The value of the exports from, and of the imports to, each port in the Colony is distinguished in the following table:—

Port.		Exports.	Imports.	Total Trade.
- Carrier Harris		£	£	£
Brisbane	-	718,193	1,971,154	2,689,347
Cleveland Bay -	-	8,145	570	8,715
Port Denison -	-	33,163	103,100	136,263
Port Curtis -	-	46,215	19,278	65,493
Port Hinchinbrook	-			
Maryborough -	-	73,226	84,797	158,023
Rockhampton -	-	274,522	326,660	601,182
St. Lawrence -	-		10 - 1 lb -	_
Pioneer River -			_	-
Total -		1,153,464	2,505,559	3,659,023

Wool is the only export of Queensland produce which does not show a considerable increase in the Customs returns for the year 1865. This will be seen by reference to the following table of the respective quantities of colonial produce exported in each of the years 1864 and 1865:—

-	-		1864.	1865.	Increase.	Centesimal Increase
Arrowroot		- 1bs.	5,343	12,141	6,798	127 · 23
Cotton -	-	- lbs.	38,730	145,820	107,090	276 · 50
				cwts. grs.	cwts. qrs.	
Copper Ore		- cwt.	29	4,424 1	4,395 1	15,155 · 17
			ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Gold Dust		ozs.	22,037 5 22	25,338 17 16	3,301 11 18	10.44
Hides		- No.	32,457	45,511	13,054	40.23
				tons cwts. qrs.	tons cwts. qrs.	
Tallow -		- tons	1,137	1,940 0 2	803 0 2	70.62
Wool -		- 1bs.	14,006,789	12,251,841	1,754,948	A decrease.

The following table gives the trade of Queensland for the last six years, that is, from the first year of the Colony's foundation to the 31st December 1865, distinguishing the

countries with which it is carried on, and showing the annual per-centages of increase or decrease:—

QUEENS-LAND.

TOTAL VALUE in Sterling of the IMPORTS and EXPORTS of the COLONY of QUEENSLAND, from and to each Country, in the Years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865.

4 BO Brooks of the specific or 20 BC specific between the facility	Year.	Imports therefrom.	Exports thereto.		per cent.* or
				Imports.	Exports.
	1000	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	£	£
	1860	56,730 0 0	110 515 0 0		-
	1861 1862	90,905 0 0	119,515 0 0	* 60·24 *137·07	* 99.60
Great Britain	1863	215,509 0 0 365,093 0 0	238,553 0 0 233,392 0 0	* 69.41	† 21.63
	1864	506,697 0 0	354,636 0 0	* 38.79	* 51.95
Manager Manager College - College	1865	713,545 0 0	240,550 0 0	* 40.82	† 32.17
	1860	523,165 0 0	161,546 0 0	_	-
	1861	874,797 13 11	589,633 15 0	* 67.21	*264.99
	1862	1,100,935 0 0	550,839 0 0	* 25.85	† 6.58
Australian Colonies and New Zealand	1863	1,335,606 0 0	649,299 0 0	21.32	* 17.87
	1864	1,746,871 0 0	892,320 0 0	* 30.79	
	1865	1,783,737 0 0	912,824 0 0	* 2.11	* 2.29
and the second of the second	1860	-			
	1861	1,180 0 0			_
	1862	4,688 0 0	_	* 29.73	
Germany	1863	12,539 0 0		* 16.53	
	1864	7,370 0 0		† 41.22	-
THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF	1865	8,277 0 0		* 12.30	
	1860	100 100 TO 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	311 0 0		
	1861	2 0 0	450 0 0	-	* 44.69
India, China, Ceylon, Batavia,	1862 1863	3 0 0	1,876 0 0	- 12	*316.89
Penang, and Guam.	1864		4,521 0 0		*140.99
	1865		$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		† 97.92
>	1860		10 0 0		† 86.17
	1861				1 1 7 2
	1862		1,968 0 0		Verification.
South America	1863		706 0 0		† 64.13
	1864	6,880 0 0	4 0 0	- 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	† 99.43
	1865	_	77 0 0		-
	1860		311 0 0		
	1861	_		-	
	1862	2,394 0 0		_	_
New Caledonia	1863				
	1864	36 0 0		-	
	1865				-
	1860	1,000 0 0	No. of the Park Control of	-	1 T 1
	1861	1,068 0 0		_	_
South Sea Islands and Coral Sea	1862 1863	25 0 0	463 0 0		-
Fishery.	1864	100 0 0	463 0 0	*300.00	
	1865	100 0 0		-300-00	
de de la					
	1860	742,023 0 0	523,476 0 0	_	
	1861	967,950 13 11	709,598 15 0	* 30.45	* 35.56
Totals	1862	1,323,509 0 0	793,236 0 0	* 36.73	* 11.79
Totals	1863	1,713,263 0 0	898,381 0 0	* 29.45	* 11.99
The state of the s	1864	2,267,954 0 0	1,247,054 0 0	* 32.38	* 40.37
	1865	2,505,559 0 0	1,153,464 0 0	* 10.48	†7.55

Live Stock.

RETURN of the LIVE STOCK in the Colony of QUEENSLAND on the 31st December 1865.

Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
51,091	887,856	6,810,005	14,888	

The difficulty of collecting the Live Stock returns increases yearly, and the above must only be looked upon as an approximation, the true numbers being probably greater.

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In some districts the distances to be travelled by the collectors are so great, and the police, who are directed to perform this duty, are so few in number, that it is almost, if not quite, impossible to collect the returns by personal application within any reasonable Unfortunately, also, in these distant districts, communication by post with the various stations is uncertain, and the forms so forwarded, even if they do reach their destination, are very apt, if not actually called for, to be treated as waste paper by the owners or resident managers of stations. Even in those cases where the information is supplied, lengthened periods often elapse before an opportunity presents itself of forwarding it to the nearest Post Office; the necessary result is that the returns from many districts are incomplete, and in some instances quite wanting.

I have, at page 96 of the Register, compiled the usual return from the imperfect materials at command, as it may be of use for some of the districts; but the total number of cattle and sheep in the Colony, given above, I have obtained from returns forwarded to the Treasury in compliance with the provisions of the two Queensland Acts of Parliament, 25 Victoria, No. 21, and 27 Victoria, No. 2. These returns are made on oath, and a penalty for non-compliance renders them more reliable than the returns collected for the Register. It must, however, be remembered that these returns are only to the 1st July of each year. As regards the other two items, viz., horses and pigs. I have to rely solely on the returns forwarded to me; they are, fortunately, of less importance than the others, and are also from several causes more likely to be

Imperfect as the returns above alluded to confessedly are, they still show a large increase on the live stock of the year 1864, the number of horses being 51,091 against 40,678; numerical increase in the year 1865, 10,413; centesimal increase in the same period, 25.59 per cent. The number of cattle being 887,856 against 882,073; numerical increase in the year, 5,783; centesimal increase in the same period, 0.65 per cent. The number of sheep being 6,810,005 against 5,665,334; numerical increase in the year, 1,144,671; centesimal increase in the same period, 20.20 per cent.

The following table compares the live stock in the several districts of the Colony in the two years 1864 and 1865:-

TABLE showing the NUMBER of LIVE STOCK in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND in the Years 1864 and 1865.

		18	364.			. 18	365.	
District.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Banana	902	5,148	261,127	62	895	5,610	278,122	74
Brisbane	3,508	34,267	6,974	3,750	5,458	59,530	4,493	5,628
Condamine	546	7,427	82,251	17	566	8,025	98,466	15
Dalby	1,887	23,918	531,047	201	2,099	24,993	685,897	335
Drayton and Toowoomba -	3,426	31,817	565,218	1,074	3,892	19,009	521,079	1,526
Gayndah	2,631	66,530	604,816	228	3,239	75,362	744,922	202
Gladstone	1,352	55,816	14,200	289	1,520	48,858	56,406	454
Goondiwindi	1,180	27,022	98,668	236	3,960	31,726	122,076	270
pswich	6,539	99,824	143,433	2,663	7,098	112,429	115,575	2,33
Kennedy, North and South -	1,559	60,346	325,769	192	1,930	56,788	335,904	349
Maranoa East (Surat, &c.)	797	57,113	143,538	3	535	30,624	142,161	30
Maranoa West (St. George, &c.)	2,042	101,220	242,938	31	2,972	101,430	176,773	40
Maryborough -	2,533	117,734	90,289	681	1,384	76,730	44,020	263
Mitchell 1	153	2,577	59,092		331	5,297	148,581	-
Nanango	1,484	22,911	76,718	29	1,493	28,003	120,621	7.
North Cook	-,	_	_	_	21	300	45	2
Peak Downs	509	6,206	261,168	_	1,178	9,264	490,086	13
Princhester	593	27,483	26,953	92	517	19,313	57,779	15
Rockhampton	1,867	32,389	215,280	765	2,836	27,399	299,532	1,41
Roma ²	679	9,929	439,395		679	9,929	439,395	_
Springsure	1,076	21,407	508,477	26	1,021	7,770	456,419	3
Taroom	1,207	9,949	432,079	28	1,117	8,846	372,051	
Warrego 3	699	20,725	85,228	_	2,500	41,072	372,312	
Warwick	3,509	40,315	450,676	1,699	3,850	40,039	512,251	1,51
Total	40,678	882,073	5,665,334	12,066	51,091			14,88

The Returns from 11 Stations in this District are yet outstanding.
 No Returns having been received from Roma, the numbers given are repeated from the returns of 1864.
 The Returns from this District are incomplete.
 Stations are reported as temporarily abandoned, owing to scarcity of water.

On the 31st December 1864, the amount of money secured by mortgage on live stock in the Colony was 3,474,673l., and the quantity of stock pledged as security was —sheep, 5,014,633; cattle, 549,938; horses, 34,980. To the above sum thus secured must now be added, as the result of the year's operations, the sum of 1,240,091l. 18s. 3d., secured on 1,550,889 sheep, 203,376 cattle, 5,435 horses. The total amount secured on

mortgages of live stock on the 31st December 1865 is, therefore, 4,714,764l. 18s. 3d.; and the number of stock pledged as security is—sheep, 6,565,522; cattle, 753,314; and horses, 40,415.

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horses, 40,415.

The liens on wool of the ensuing clip registered during the year 1865 are 140 in number; the amount borrowed on this security is 359,790l. 15s. 7d., and the number of sheep whose wool is pledged is 2,030,711. In the year 1864, the respective numbers were,—liens, 115; amount borrowed, 304,821l. 2s. 2d.; number of sheep, 1,781,782.

Agriculture.

The total quantity of land under cultivation on the 31st December 1865, appears by the following return to be 14,414 acres 1 rood 39 perches; this is an increase of 2,407 acres 3 roods 2 perches on the total quantity in the year 1864; the centesimal rate of increase is 20.05. The crops which have increased most largely, are maize, sugar-cane, and fodder, both green and dry, and the districts which have contributed in the greatest degree to this increase are Brisbane, Drayton, Toowoomba, and Warwick. The following table gives in detail full particulars of the various crops under cultivation, and of the districts where cultivated, for both of the years 1864 and 1865:—

L. COMPARATIVE VIEW of the STATE of AGRICULTURE in each DISTRICT of QUEENSLAND, for the Years 1864 and 1865.

Government Savings Bank.

QUEENS-LAND.

This bank was called into existence by the Queensland Act of Parliament, 28th Victoria, No. 2, and commenced business on the 1st January 1865, the returns of its first year's operations are published at page 58 of the Register.

From these tables it appears that the total number of depositors on the 31st December 1865 was 1,803; the total amount deposited being 82,065l. 5s. 11d., and the average amount deposited per head 45l. 10s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$. The actual amount to the credit of the above 1,803 depositors on the 31st December 1865, after making the requisite additions for interest and deductions for sums withdrawn, was 56,582l. 2s. 9d. During the year 2,500 accounts have been opened and 697 have been closed. The number of offices opened during the year is 28. Interest allowed to depositors is at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

Real Property Transfer Office.

The following comparative return exhibits in detail the work of this office since its formation:—

					1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	Total.
Number of applications to bring lan	nd under the "R	eal Pr	operty A	ct"	485	530	650	499	2,164
Number of transfers of land alread	under the Act	-		-	376	1,317	2,397	3,153	7,243
Number of mortgages of land		-	- 1	-	36	107	306	619	1,068
Number of other dealings -		-	-	-	6	32	62	249	349
	Total			-	903	1,986	3,415	4,520	10,824
Number of certificates issued -		-			612	2,060	3,009	4,024	9,705

The total quantity of land under the provisions of the above Act, whether by application of the owner or by deed of grant, is 426,833 acres 1 rood $10\frac{1}{2}$ perches; as the total quantity alienated by the Crown up to the same date is 501,982 acres 1 rood and 27.55 perches, it follows that 73.58 per cent. of all land held in fee in the Colony is so circumstanced.

The aggregate receipts of this office for the above four years are—

Fees of office		10,568	14	2
Contributions to Assurance Fund	-	1,959	7	9
Total -	-	12,528	1	11

The aggregate expenditure for salaries and contingencies for the same period is-

					£		d.
Salaries -	18-5-			1.0	5,589	16	4
Contingencies	144	Appl 1	1 1	1	1,628		
T	otal	2	ar e fiya.		7,218	2	1

There remains, therefore, excluding the Assurance Fund, the sum of 3,350l. 12s. 1d. to the credit of the office. No claim has been made against the Assurance Fund.

Revenue.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the YEAR 1865.

Receipts during the Year, including Land Orders received in payment of Land purchased.	Expenditure during the Year, including Land Orders negotiated.
£ s d 631,431 17 11	£ s. d. 617,996 8 1

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Compared with the receipts and expenditure of the year 1864 the following are the

e vincen dia co	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Balance to Credit* or Debit† of Revenue.
1864 1865	£ s. d. 502,456 9 7 631,431 17 11	£ s. d. 572,066 1 10 617,996 8 1	£ s. d. † 69,609 12 3 * 13,435 9 10
Increase in 1865 - Centesimal Increase	128,975 8 4 25.67	45,930 6 3 8.03	

The various sources of revenue of the two years, 1864 and 1865, are compared in the following table :-

	1864			1865	5.		Increas	se.		Centesima Increase.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Customs	153,341	19	6	195,540	15	1	42,198	15	7	27.52
Gold	2,204	0	0	3,566		5	1,362	13	5	61.79
Land Revenue, including value of Land orders cancelled.	281,460	10	8	323,647	10	3	42,186		7	14.99
Postage and Post Office orders -	15,157	15	6	18,853	15	7	3,696	0	1	24.38
icences	18,104	12	8	22,044	17	4	3,940	4	8	21.77
ees of office	9,986	12	5	12,961	7	8	2,974	15	3	29.78
ines and forfeitures	1,132	3	5	1,894	3	8	762	0	3	67:31
tents, exclusive of land	374	15	3	591	12	8	216	17	5	57.75
Iarbour dues and fees	3,491	9	5	5,195	8	3	1,703	18	10	48.78
ivil Service Superannuation Fund	1,149	12	5	2,759	2	3	1,609	9	10	140.03
Clectric telegraph	5,650		5	10,064	18	9	4,414	13	4	78:12
Railway receipts	_			5,679	3	7	5,679	3	7	
discellaneous receipts	10,402	12	11	28,632	9	5	18,229		6	175.24
Total	502,456	9	7	631,431	17	11	128,975	8	4	25.67

Revenue derived from Sale of Crown Lands.

The receipts from the sale of Crown lands are the largest item in the revenue of the Colony, forming, in fact, in the year 1865, 34 59 per cent., or more than one-third of its total amount. The following is a return of the revenue derived from this source for each total amount. of the six years ending 31st December 1865:

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
£ s. d. 45,955 7 5	£ s. d. 68,700 13 3	£ s. d. 110,526 12 4	£ s. d. 135,614 17 6	£ s. d. 190,730 1 3	£ s. d 218,431 9

A considerable portion of this revenue has been received in land orders. The following is a return of the actual cash receipts in payment of land sold for each of the above years :-

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
£ s. d. 45,955 7 5	£ s. d. 68,700 13 3	£ s. d. 59,381 15 0	£ s. d. 40,007 2 3	£ s. d. 57,698 17 11	£ s. d. 59,461 0 0

These two last tables have been compiled from the annual statement of revenue and expenditure, published by the Auditor-General. The largest amount received in cash appears to have been during the year 1861, and the smallest in 1863, since which year the receipts have increased each year, until in 1865 they slightly exceed the average annual receipts of the whole six years. As the year 1861 is the last in which cash alone was received in payment, and as it is also the year of largest cash receipts, it would appear that the issue of land orders has had the effect of diminishing the annual amount of cash received from the sale of Crown lands.

Revenue collected by the Customs.

QUEENS LAND.

The import duties collected by the customs in 1865 form the next largest item in the year's receipts, and are at the rate of 2l. 8s. 4 06d. per head of the estimated mean population of the year. This is rather above the average of the last six years, and may probably be accounted for by an alteration in the rate of import duties, made by Act of the Queensland Parliament, 29 Victoria, No. 2, which Act came into force on the 23rd June 1865. By it, the duty on whiskey, rum, and all other spirits, except brandy and gin, is raised from 7s. to 10s. per gallon; on wine not containing more than 25 per cent. of alcohol, from 2s. to 3s. per gallon; on ale, porter, and beer of all sorts, in wood, from 1d. to 3d. per gallon; and on beer or ale, in bottle, from 2d. to 6d. per gallon.

The following table gives the annual proportion the customs duties received bear to the mean population of each year for the last six years. The slight yearly difference is

very remarkable :-

Yea	Mean Population	n Customs	Des			ver	age d of the	Remarks.
I ea	of the Year.	Customs	Nec	eipts.		Mea	an ation.	Dutiable Articles, and Rates of Import Duty levied on each.
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Brandy, gin, cordials, or liqueurs, 10s. per gallon.
186	0 27,017	59,210	3	7	2	3	93	Whiskey, rum, and perfumed spirits, 7s., and since 23rd June
186	1 31,886	71,678	18	11	2	5	7	1865, 10s. per gallon.
186	2 40,593	96,107	11	8	2	7	41	Wine, above proof, 10s. per gallon.
186	3 53,970	125,199	6	11	2	6	$\frac{4\frac{1}{4}}{4\frac{3}{4}}$ $\frac{7\frac{3}{4}}{7\frac{3}{4}}$	Wine, below proof, 2s., and since 23rd June, 3s. per gallon.
186	4 67,181	153,341	19	6	2	5	73	Ale and beer in wood, 1d., and since 23rd June, 3d. per gallon.
186	5 80,905	195,540	15	1	2	8	4.06	Ale and beer in bottle, 2d., and since 23rd June, 6d. per gallon. Tea, 3d. per lb.; sugar, refined, 6s. 8d., unrefined, 5s. per
Tota	301,552	701,078	15	8	2	6	5.98	cwt.; treacle, 3s. 4d. per cwt.; coffee, 2d. per lb.; cigars, 3s. per lb.; tobacco and snuff, 2s. per lb.; opium, 10s. per lb.

If the increase in the annual customs receipts, when compared with the mean population, be correctly attributable to the alteration in the tariff—and I see no reason to doubt it—it follows that the actual increase to the revenue arising from six months' operation of the Act above referred to amounts to about 7,416l. 5s. 10d., or at the rate of 14,832l. 11s. 8d. per annum. The total revenue derived from import duties is at the rate of 2l. 8s. 4d. per head of the mean population of the year.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony of Queensland amounted on the 31st December 1864 to 548,800l., raised by the sale of debentures bearing six per cent. interest. The amount realised by the sale of debentures during the year 1865 was 582,750l.; the total amount of debt on the 31st December 1865 was, therefore, 1,131,550l. The annual interest of this debt, at six per cent., amounts to 67,893l., and is at the rate of 16s. $9\frac{1}{4}d$. per head of the estimated mean population of the year.

The following is a tabulated return of the various Queensland Loan Acts, and of the

sums of money authorized to be raised by each: -

No. of Act.	Year.	Amount auth be rais		d to	Remarks.
		£	s.	d	
25 Victoria, No. 3 -	1861	123,800	0.000	0	1
28 Victoria, No. 25 -	1863	707,436		0	
28 Victoria, No. 28 -	1864	1,019,000			Bearing 6 per cent. interest.
Total to 31 Dec. 1865		1,850,236	1	0	

Attached as an Appendix to this Report are two Synoptical Tables, presenting in a tabulated form most of the above calculations and comparisons relating to the past year, and also to the five previous years of the Colony's existence.

I have, &c. F. O. DARVALL, Registrar-General.

				Population.							Land Sales.				Live Stock.					
	Year.		Males.	Females.	Persons.	Births.	Mar- riages.	Deaths.	Immi- gration.	Emi- gration.	Number Acres		Amount realis	sed.	Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
1859		_	14,940	10,206	25,146						Α.	R. P.	£ s.	d.	A. R. P.					
1860		-	17,275	11,612	28,887	1,236	255	478	_		23,587	1 21	37,978 15	3	3,353 1 0	23,504	432,890	3,166,802	7,147	
1861		-	21,231	13,654	34,885	1,423	320	499	6,178	1,809	56,849	1 141	94,063 3	1	4,440 2 18	28,983	560,196	4,093,381	7,465	
1862		-	28,177	18,123	46,300	1,702	570	797	12,252	2,447	67,873	1 9	106,019 13	5	6,086 0 203	36,532	637,296	4,553,353	7,066	
1863		-	37,579	24,061	61,640	2,221	774	1,275	17,450	3,761	62,948	1 381	108,828 8	6	11,262 0 20	45,805	880,392	5,672,400	7,351	
1864		-	45,516	28,520	74,036	2,883	951	1,446	17,009	6,050	139,814	1 20	210,725 18	5	12,006 2 37	40,678	882,073	5,665,334	12,066	
1865			53,297	34,478	87,775	3,480	1,034	1,714	22,855	10,886	145,799	2 38.8	224,403 15	6	14,414 1 39	51,091	887,856	6,810,005	14,888	

			Shipp	ing.			. 1	Exports of	Colonial P	roduce.		Imports.	Exports.				Edu	cation.	the Su-
Year.		Inwards.			Outwards				Hides					Gross Revenue, including Special Receipts	Gross Expenditure, including	Loans authorized	s- 10		g-B.
	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	and Skins, value.	Gold, value.	Cotton, value.	Total value.	Total value.	and Land Orders cancelled.	Land Orders negotiated.	Parliament.	Number of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Convictions preme an Courts.
							£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£			
1860	210	45,736	3,745	183	39,503	3,138	444,188	25,628	14,030	-	_	742,023	523,477	178,589 8 5	161,503 5 3	_	62	3,169	30
1861	251	57,377	4,750	234	51,827	4,395	613,074	48,009	19,834		_	967,951	709,599	238,238 9 1	299,006 5 5	123,800	68	4,221	24
1862	330	77,312	6,154	305	71,981	5,554	671,970	50,961	17,362	_	_	1,323,509	793,236	346,431 5 5	418,461 11 11	_	84	4,925	23
1863	389	104,421	7,948	353	98,844	7,184	776,776	30,716	16,149	14,802	3,056	1,713,263	888,381	390,823 0 10	512,192 10 2	707,436	107	6,175	56
1864	431	129,687	9,265	396	116,702	8,352	699,845	32,999	14,999	83,292	4,186	2,267,954	1,247,045	524,198 17 11	572,066 1 10	1,019,000	129	7,260	61
1865	497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791	885,299	57,155	31,325	92,938	12,197	2,505,559	1,153,464	674,429 18 10	617,996 8 1	_	*101	5,689	99

^{*} The Returns of Schools for the year 1865 are exclusive of Sunday schools under the supervision of ministers of religion, no information having been supplied.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

APPENDIX B.—Table exhibiting the Annual Increase per Cent. in the Years 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865, and the Total Increase per Cent. in the Period of Five Years.

		Population.	Population.		1433	B. Fall			Land	Sales.	Number	Live Stock.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Immigration.	Emi- grants.	Number of Acres.	Amount realised.	of Acres under Cultiva- tion.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
Increase per cent. in 1861	22.90	17.59	20.73	15.29	25.49	4.39			141.02	147.67	32.42	23.31	29.41	29.26	4.45	
Increase per cent. in 1862	32.72	32.73	32.72	19.61	78.13	59.72	98.32	35.27	19.39	12.71	37.29	26.05	13.76	11.24	-5.65	
Increase per cent. in 1863	33.37	32.76	33.13	30.49	35.79	59.97	42.43	53.62	-7.26	2.65	85.05	25.38	38.14	24.58	4.03	
Increase per cent. in 1864	21.14	18.53	20.11	29.81	22.87	21.25	-5.23	60.86	122.11	93.63	6.61	-12.60	0.19	-0.12	64.14	
Increase per cent. in 1865	17.09	20.89	18.55	20.71	8.73	18.53	34.37	79.93	4.28	6.49	20.05	25.59	0.65	20.20	23.38	
Increase per cent. in the five years -	258.08	237 • 82	241.11	181.55	305 · 41	258 · 58	269.94	501.77	518.22	490.88	329.88	117·37	105.09	115.04	108.31	

			Ship	ping.						4				Educ	cation.
		Inwards.		Outwards.			Exports of Colonial Produce.			Imports.	Exports.	Gross	Gross		of General cation.
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	Hides and Skins, value.	Total value.	Total value.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.
Increase per cent. in 1861	19.52	25.45	26.84	27.87	31.20	40.06	38.02	87.33	41.37	30.45	35.55	33.40	85.14	9.68	33.20
Increase per cent. in 1862	31.47	34.74	29.56	30.34	38.89	26.37	9.61	6.15	-14.24	36.73	11.79	45.41	43.29	23.53	16.68
Increase per cent. in 1863	17.88	35.06	29.15	15.74	37.32	24.10	15.60	-65.91	-7.51	29.45	11.99	12.81	22.35	27.38	25.38
Increase per cent. in 1864	10.80	24.20	16.57	12.18	18.07	16.26	-10.99	7.43	-7.67	32.38	40.37	34.13	11.69	20.56	17.57
Increase per cent. in 1865	15.31	33.57	32.69	23.23	43.23	41.17	26.49	73.14	108.83	10.47	-7.50	28.66	8.03	-21.71	-21.64
Increase per cent. in the five years -	136.66	278.75	228 · 28	166.66	323 · 14	275.75	99.31	123.02	123.27	227.67	120.35	277.64	282.65	-62.90	79.52

VICTORIA. No. 18.

VICTORIA.

No. 18.

Cory of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 19.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,

My LORD,

January 26, 1867. I have the honour to forward copies of the statistics of this Colony, and a return of the Civil establishment, for the year 1865, (together) comprising what is usually called the Blue Book.

The fact that I did not arrive in this Colony until August 1866, will, I hope, be regarded by your Lordship as a satisfactory reason for my abstaining from offering any remarks on the occurrences here of the preceding year, or the condition of the Colony during that period.

I have, &c. J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON. (Signed)

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of VICTORIA for the last 10 YEARS.

Year.	Population.								701	Manufac-	Land Sales.		Number of Acres
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Births.	Deaths,	Mar- riages.	Immi- gration.	Emi- gration.	Flour Mills.	tories, Works, &c.	Number of Acres.	Amount realised.	under Cul- tivation.
												£	
1856	255,827	141,733	397,560	14,420	5.728	4,116	41,594	21,187	77	213	437,562	749,318	179,983
1857	297,547	165,588	463,135	17,384		4,524	74,255	20,471	88	386	500,383	1,067,450	237,729
1858	323,576	180,943	504,519	19,929	9,015		56,168	25,882	89	421	255,724	638,650	298,960
1859	335,708	194,554	530,262	22,092		4,769	32,735	19,615	97	407	459,082	814,164	358,728
	328,251	209,596	537,847	22,863	12,061	4,351	29,037	21,689	94	475	492,248	663,238	419,380
1860	321,724	220,076	541,800	23,461	10,522		26,912	35,988	104	429	514,745	623,588	439,895
1861		229,976	555,744	24,391	10,080	4,525	37,836	38,203	104	603	844,969	910,862	465,430
1862	325,768	243,760	574,331	23,906	9,502		38,983	34,800	110	716	295,180	450,646	507,798
1863	330,571		605,501	25,680	8,887	4,554	36,156	21,779	93	612	260,169	522,602	479,463
1864 1865	348,279 357,519	257,222 269,124	626,639	25,915	10,461	4,497	30,976	25,292	118	779	139,776	295,456	530,196

Year.	Live Stock.				Shipping.				Exports of Colonial Produce.				
	Horses.				Inwards.		Outwards.		Gold.a		Wool.		
		Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Num- ber of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Num- ber of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
						TELL			ozs.	£	lbs.	£	
1856	47,832	646,613	4,641,548	52,227	1,920	538,609	1,959	538,362	2,985,992	11,943,458	21,968,174	1,506,61	
1857	55,683	614,537	4,766,022	43,632	2,190	694,564	2,207	684,526	2,762,461	10,987,591	17,176,920	1,335,64	
1858	68,323	699,330	5,578,413	37,756	2,034	648,103	2,015	641,254	2,528,479	10,107,836	21,515,958	1,678,29	
1859	69,288	683,534	5,794,127	50,965	2,026	634,131	2,056	661,518	2,280,950	9,122,037	21,660,295	1,756,95	
	76,536	722,332	5,780,896	61,259		581,642	1,841	599,137	2,156,661	8,624,860	24,273,910	2,025,06	
1860		628,092	6,239,258	43,480	1,778	549,195	1,820	540,807	1,967,420	7,869,758	23,923,195	2,095,26	
1861	84,057 86,067	576,601	6,764,851	52,991	1,715	556,188	1,766	581,892	1,658,285	6,685,192	25,245,778	2,350,9	
862		675,272	7,115,943	79,655	1,739	624,061	1,782	618,052	1,627,066	6,520,957	25,579,886	2,049,4	
1863	103,328	640,625	8,406,234	113,530	1,816	620,200	1,896	641,614	1,545,450	6,206,237	39,871,892	3,250,12	
1864	117,182	621,337	8,835,380	75,869	1,743	580,973	1,823	599,351	1,543,802	6,190,317	44,270,666	3,315,10	

(continued.)

The returns of Gold Exports for the four years, 1852-1855, contain, in addition to the amounts which passed through the Customs of this Colony, the following quantities of Victorian gold, which passed through the Customs of the adjacent Colonies without being recorded in Victoria:—1852, 749,957 ozs., value 2,624,8511.; 1853, 652,297 ozs., value 2,446,1141.; 1854, 247,866 ozs., value 9,58,5431.; 1855, 41,530 ozs., value 166,1201. Total, 1,691,150 ozs., value 6,195,628. No estimate has been given of the further quantity of gold taken out of the Colony by private hand and not recorded in any Custom-house.

VICTORIA

Year.	Exports of Colonial Produce.			Imports.	Exports.	Revenue	Expenditure	Schools.		Number	1 77
			Hides	(Total	(Total Value.)	for the service of each Year.	for the service of	Number		of Churches,	Convic-
	Quantity.	Value.	and Skins. (Value.)			each lear.	each Year.	Schools.	Scholars.	Chapels, &c.	
7	lbs.	£	£	£	£	£	£				
1856	1,970,976	35,980	72,103	14,962,269	15,489,760	2,972,496	2,668,834	455	26,323	473	480
1857	4,843,216	62,363	191,828	17,256,209	15,079,512	3,328,303	2,968,658	675	36,671	587	662
1858	2,275,056	43,987	106,527	15,108,249	13,989,209	2,973,383	3,092,720	740	42,432	645	740
1859	548,352	10,354	172,446	15,622,891	13,867,859	3,261,104	3,393,946	772	46,265	642	852
1860	788,144	18,269	144,236	15,093,730	12,962,704	3,082,461	3,315,307	886	51,668	874	796
1861	4,208,960	75,784	100,384	13,532,452	13,828,606	2,952,101	3,092,021	882	56,473	989	846
1862	3,998,904	66,515	130,350	13,487,787	13,039,422	3,269,079	3,039,497	989	65,541	1,137	769
1863	1,938,708	33,871	106,264	14,118,727	13,566,296	2,774,686	2,882,937	1,019	69,619	1,352	684
1864	3,882,256	60,230	102,724	14,974,815	13,898,384	2,955,338	2,928,903	947	66,145	1,531	567
1865	1,396,640	15,566	83,361	13,257,537	13,150,748	3,058,338 b	2,229,747b	1,080	72,663	1,695	675

b The figures of Revenue and Expenditure given for 1865 are only the receipts and disbursements during 1865 on account of that year. The whole returns of Revenue and Expenditure, for the service of 1865, will also include the receipts and payments on account of that year, down to the end of 1866.

WILLIAM HENRY ARCHER, Registrar General.

TASMANIA.

No. 19.

STATISTICAL RETURNS for the last 10 YEARS.

Tasmania.
No. 19.

		Popu	lation.		Births.					
Year.	Males.	males.	Children.	Total on 31st December.		Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration.	Emigration.	Aboriginal Inhabitants.
1856	No census.			No census.	2,956	1,335	933	4,956	7,636	16
1857	45,916*	34,886*	-	82,907	3,246	1,418	897	6,063	5,231	15
1858	47,306	36,806		84,080	3,138	1,562	779	4,003	4,496	14
1859	48,148	37,965	-	85,968	3,244	1,410	706	2,975	2,921	141
1860.	48,608	39,179	_	87,775	3,238	1,749	689	3,432	3,114	118
1861	49,593†	40,384†	_	90,211	3,207	1,477	717	3,684	4,861	8
1862	No census.		_	90,728	3,149	1,362	636	3,174	4,444	8
1863	Do.	-	-	91,519	2,998	1,418	698	3,621	4,410	6
1864	Do.	_		93,307	3,031	1,433	698	3,711	3,521	6
1865	Do.	_	_	95,201	3,069	1,263	591	3,597	3,509	49

* On 31 March 1857. † On 7 April 1861. ‡ 5 males, 9 females. § 4 males, 7 females. ¶ 1 male, 5 females. ¶ Females.

Year.		and Sales Rental.	Acres in Cultivation.		Liv	Import of Live Stock.—Value.				
	Acres sold.	Revenue from Sales and Rental of Crown Lands.		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
		£	THE REAL PROPERTY.					£	£	£
1856	14,572	52,434	185,519	18,019	88,608	1,674,987	30,074	30	7,755	81,256
1857	9,392	61,001	205,873	19,857	80,144	1,912,423	34,237	19	7,133	41,533
1858	47,879	75,490	229,489	21,563	79,460	1,504,393	30,673	11	6,625	37,655
1859	76,658	80,202	208,619	20,559	79,950	1,679,199	32,008	10	5,864	22,857
1860	92,020	82,956	218,315	21,034	83,366	1,700,930	31,290	4	5,798	43,312
1861	100,962	84,989	248,064	22,118	87,114	1,714,498	40,841	72	5,827	38,486
1862	40,048	66,763	253,050	20,742	83,143	1,661,225	38,491	4	5,325	22,272
1863	78,570	67,154	267,173	21,964	90,446	1,800,811	41,986	1	4,065	18,412
1864	141,381	93,429	252,164	22,090	89,801	1,736,540	.50,380	15	4.877	17,484
1865	92,113	69,046	250,386	22,152	90,020	1,752,719	36,624	7	2,087	9,542

	Export of Live Stock.—Value.				Ship	ping.		Wool exp		
Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Inwards.		Outwards.		No. of Pounds	Declared	Value of Fruit Jams, and Vegetables
	Horses.	Cabbic.	Sheep.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	Weight.	Value.	exported.
	£	£	£						£	£
1856	635	39	29	934	157,826	945	156,396	4,559,674	319,961	66,544
1857	1,034	79	3,227	1,021	164,008	1,032	167,058	5,701,884	393,646	108,251
1858	734	79	3,978	973	147,947	922	146,864	4,755,318	397,533	125,355
1859	1,021	132	1,590	835	120,906	857	125,089	6,107,903	467,968	92,016
1860	1,079	17	152	806	116,172	818	118,243	4,537,918	370,427	105,940
1861	1,144	4	6,944	780	113,610	800	116,608	4,103,369	326,413	83,361
1862	1,645	78	6,214	734	107,664	754	108,915	5,241,650	366,350	87,622
1863	1,949	1,010	2,526	775	117,681	770	116,143	4,665,594	407,844	140,092
1864	517	481	1,773	807	124,699	797	123,791	4,972,403	415,891	153,805
1865	802	137	3,537	640	100,276	677	104,218	4,923,965	381,625	102,161

TASMANIA.

Year.	Value of Timber exported.	Value of Grain, Hay, Flour, and Bran exported.	Total Value of Imports.	Total Value of Exports.	Customs Revenue.	Coin in the Banks.	Expenditure by the Commissariat
1856	112,753	303,933	1,442,106	1,207,802	133,826	482,914	172,483
1867	133,473	388,642	1,271,087	1,354,655	134,839	501,211	138,680
1858	110,101	288,198	1,328,612	1,151,609	134,608	343,073	126,918
1859	82,122	302,754	1,163,907	1,193,898	123,300	270,194	120,498
1860	73,726	214,723	1,068,411	962,170	118,348	280,503	88,045
1861	55,850	211,990	953,517	905,463	112,319	223,328	78,555
1862	62,231	203,128	857,413	919,649	130,835	199,609	82,654
1863	69,881	151,252	902,940	999,511	135,825	164,494	60,953
1864	81,265	157,351	908,265	975,730	127,099	167,900	70,164
1865	56,698	123,348	762,375	880,965	118,775	174,357	88,803

_	Governm	Government Schools.		No. of	No. of Post Offices in	No. of	Value of M	Flour Mills in	
Year.	No.	Scholars.	Churches, Chapels, &c.	Houses in Tasmania.	Tasmania.	Breweries in operation.	Imported.	Exported.	operation.
							£	£	
1856	81	2,692	_		97	39	36,103	13,861	83
1857	80	3,720	-	15,018	109	37	44,824	2,702	84
1858	78	4,191	_	_	95	38	39,567	1,855	91
1859	83	5,042	_	_	97	36	28,398	873	74
1860	89	6,664	-		97	. 38	24,871	145	70
1861	94	7,236	-	18,593	100	38	21,651	1,880	83
1862	94	7.814	-	_	103	35	21,021	5,838	79
1863	88	7,124	-	_	103	33	19,389	3,047	84
1864	97	7,791	170	_	109	36	15,788	310	79
1865	100	8,303	170	No census.	114	36	12,854	2,540	78

	Ordinary	Met	teorological Regis	ters.	Value of Fisheries	Services of	Tobacco.	
Year.	Expenditure by the Government.*	Barometer, Mean. Rain Fall in Inches.		and Export of Oil.	Acres in Cultivation.	Produce in Lbs.	Highest Price obtained.	
					£			s. d.
1856	440,687	29.69	57.04	22.73	53,670	_	_	_
1857	369,600	29.91	56.02	17.14	45,176	_	-	-
1858	240,825	29.87	56.65	33.07	48,208	_	_	-
1859	249,130	29.87	55.91	23.31	63,120	86	143,859	1 0
1860	275,155	29.94	56.36	21.05	55,820	115	299,348	1 0
1861	313,323	29.87	56.88	28.19	57,130	111	248,647	1 6
1862	291,323	29.80	56.28	21.72	59,210	152	310,445	2 6
1863	246,163	29.85	55.01	40.67	28,995	232	1,046,852	1 0
1864	241,737	29.91	54.97	28.11	19,925	127	242,778	0 9
1865	250,800	29.84	53.85	23.07	24,432	156	388,065	0 9

^{*} Exclusive of redemption of debentures.

	Apples.					Pears.				Grain Crop and Potatoes.				
Year.	No. of Bushels.	High Market		Low		No. of Bushels.	High Market			vest ice.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes
		8.	d.	s.	d.		8.	d.	s.	d.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.
1861	106,544	12	0	3	6	29,195	11	0	4	0	1,380,913	751,475	169,381	47,428
1862	131,254	9	6	3	0	26,575	13	0	4	0	1,008,569	737,633	199,310	39,553
1863	168,114	8	0	3	0	25,800	9	0	2	6	953,250	1,024,134	201,852	36,356
1864	128,784	10	0	2	6	13,846	10	0	2	6	839,501	895,352	123,320	30,438
1865	160,982	6	0	2	6	13,828	10	0	3	0	1,273,766	688,740	101,504	41,864

South Australia. No. 20.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir D. Daly to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 48.) My Lord,

Government House, Adelaide, October 22, 1866.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Province for the

2. The general statistics of the Colony which, with the report of the Government Statist, are annexed to this volume, exhibit the progress of this Province in so much detail as to render any observations or any observations of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the Government statistics of the colony which, with the report of the colony which, with the report of the colony which is the

detail as to render any observations on my part unnecessary.

3. The prolonged drought which occasioned so much loss and suffering, especially to the pastoral interests, has been succeeded by a season which gives promise of a very abundant harvest, and recovery to the pastoral runs, but the great reductions in the stock of sheep and cattle which the drought had occasioned, will require more than one prosperous season to bring back the pastoral interest to the favourable position which it occupied prior to that severe calamity.

4. The effects of the recent monetary crisis in England have been felt here to some extent in commercial classes, but the financial position of the Colony is sound and satisfactory.

5. Several public works and buildings are in progress, labour finds adequate remuneration and employment, and projects for extensive improvements in the internal communications of the country are gaining favour with the Legislature to an extent that, I trust, will speedily produce satisfactory results in greatly increased facilities for the transit of produce to the shipping ports, and the expansion of the vast producing capabilities of the country.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. DALY.
Governor.

Sir, Chief Secretary's Office, Adelaide, September 14, 1866.
In submitting the "Statistical Register of South Australia for the year 1865," I have the honour to present the following report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, with the view, as customary in former years, of directing special attention to those tables peculiarly exhibiting the social and material progress of the community.

Population.

During 1865, there was a larger addition to the population than in any year since 1855, amounting to 9,264 persons, giving a rate of increase during the year of six and a quarter per cent., as compared with five per cent. during 1864, and three and three quarters in 1863.

The total inhabitants of the Province, estimated from the returns of births and deaths and of immigration and emigration by sea, numbered, on 31st December last, 156,605 persons; 80,686 males, and 75,919 females. The following table shows the sources whence the additional population has been obtained:—

	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Population on the 1st January 1865	75,888	71,453	147,341
Increase of population by excess of immigration over emigration (by sea), to 31st December 1865	2,649	2,117	4,766
Increase by excess of births over deaths, to 31st December 1865	2,149	2,349	4,498
Total on 31st December 1865	80,686 4,798	75,919 4,466	156,605 9,264

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the natural increase has yielded three per cent., and immigration by sea three and a quarter per cent., of the total addition to the There are no means of obtaining an approximation of the balance of population. arrivals over departures by land, which are now numerous and consequently affect the population returns; but to what extent can only be ascertained at the quinquennial census.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The increase to the population during 1865, from natural causes, was at a rate much exceeding those shown in the previous two years; the number of births not only increasing in a higher ratio, but the mortality diminishing much below that of 1863 and 1864. During the past twelve months the excess of births over deaths amounted to 4,498 souls, or 30.5 per thousand persons living at the commencement of the year; whilst in 1864 the additional population from this source was only 3,643 souls, or 26 in a thousand, and in 1863 of 3,745 souls, or at the rate of 27.7 per thousand persons. rate of increase in 1865 was therefore 4.5 per thousand over that of its predecessor, and 2.8 above the rate existing in 1863; it must, however, be borne in mind that the low rate in 1864 was owing to the great mortality among children during the prevalence of

6,672 births were registered in 1865, or 464 more than during the previous year. birth rate was therefore 45 per thousand persons, or one per thousand higher than in the preceding two years. Notwithstanding the augmentation of the population since 1861, the birth-rate is now 0.5 per thousand more than was recorded at that date. Of the total number of births, 3,369 were males, and 3,303 females, or 102 boys to 100 girls.

From a comparison of the quarterly returns, extending over five years, it will be found that the September quarter shows the highest number of births, next the June quarter,

then the last quarter, whilst that ending in March is the lowest of all.

Fewer deaths were registered during 1865 than in either of the preceding two years, the number being 2,174, as compared with 2,565 in 1864, and 2,221 in 1863. Owing to the epidemic prevalent during 1864, above referred to, the rate of mortality in that year, 18.2 in a thousand persons, was exceptional; it will therefore be necessary to compare the rate existing during 1865, 14.8 per thousand, with that of the year 1863, 16.4; when it will be seen that the mortality last year was 1.6 per thousand below what may be taken to be the average rate of mortality in this Colony. Many more males died than females, especially at the later periods of life, the excess of the former being much greater than usually exists; out of 2,174 deaths, only 954 were deaths of females; whilst in the previous year, in 2,565 deaths, 1,217 were females.

In 1864 from the cause previously mentioned, the deaths, among children under five

In 1864, from the cause previously mentioned, the deaths among children under five years of age formed nearly two-thirds of the whole mortality; during 1865, they formed little more than one half; the number in either year being 1,639 and 1,226

respectively.

It is satisfactory to note that a marked decrease is apparent in the rate of mortality among infants; the actual number of deaths of children under two years of age being less than in 1861, notwithstanding the rapid increase of population. Omitting the exceptional year 1864, the deaths of infants have ranged from 1,024 to 1,064 annually. The number of deaths of this class in 1865 was 1,041, being 48 per cent. of the gross mortality, or nearly six per cent. less than the proportion existing in 1861, the rate gradually declining during the intervening five years. Throughout the same period the birth-rate, as before shown, has been more than maintained.

The number of deaths under each class of disease is shown in the usual nosological tables, embracing a period of five years. The return showing the causes of death for each month in 1864 and 1865 calls for remark, as exhibiting the immunity from zymotic diseases during the latter, as compared with the two preceding years, when scarlatina was so prevalent, from which disease alone there were 288 deaths in 1863, 510 in 1864, but in 1855 only 15. These tables having now been published for ten consecutive years under the same systematic classification, the information collected cannot but be of value to medical science.

1,436 marriages were solemnized during 1865-many more than had been recorded in any previous year, and showing an increase of 145 over the number registered in 1864,

and of 278 above those celebrated in 1861.

Immigration and Emigration.

The excess of immigration over emigration (by sea) was greater during the year under review, than was recorded in either of the past ten years; the total addition to the population from this source amounting to 4,766 persons, of whom 2,649 were males and 2,117 females. The number of immigrants introduced at the public expense, or partly so, was 4,625, of whom 2,692 were males, and 1,933 females. From these figures it would appear that 141 persons were gained to the community, over and above the whole number of immigrants introduced by the State. Since the resumption of immigration in October 1862, 9,382 Government immigrants have arrived; during the like period the net addition to our population by the excess of arrivals over departures was 9,935 souls, showing that the community has increased by 553 persons more than the whole number of Government immigrants landed on our shores.

The following table shows the general immigration (male and female) during the past decade, the emigration, the balance of arrivals over departures, or vice versa, and

the number of immigrants at the public expense:-

Years.	1	Immigration.			Emigration	1.	Excess of Immigration over Emigration.			Number of Immigrants at the Public Expense.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	М.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1856	5,769	3,756	9,525	5,252	2,026	7,278	517	1,730	2,247	2,335	1,842	4 177
1857	5,262	2,876	8,138	3,205	1,704	4,909	2,057	1,172	3,229	2,422	1,543	4,17' 3,96
1858	4,826	3,029	7,855	2,499	1,110	3,609	2,327	1,919	4,246	1,894	1,659	3,55
1859	2,910	1,959	4,869	2,271	1,380	3,651	639	579	1,218	913	1,098	2,01
1860	3,109	1,265	4,374	3,444	1,458	4,902	335*	100.000	528*		480	97
1861	2,181	946	3,127	1,243	834	2,077	938	112	1,050	18	3	2
1862	2,091	1,139	3,230	1,787	898	2,685	304	241	545	281	330	61
1863	2,685	1,549	4,234	2,022	870	2,892	663	679	1,342	811	688	1,499
1864	3,720	2,238	5,958	1,776	900	2,676	1,944	1,338	3,282	1,459	1,188	2,64
1865	5,318	3,151	8,469	2,669	1,034	3,703	2,649	2,117	4,766	2,692	1,933	4,62
Total	37,871	21,908	59,779	26,168	12,214	38,382	11,703	9,694	21,397	13,317	10,764	24,08

* Excess of Emigration.

The total number of arrivals during the 10 years comprised in the above return was 59,779, of whom 24,081 persons were introduced at the public expense; the departures numbered 38,382, showing a balance in favour of arrivals of 21,397 souls; it would therefore appear that 2,684 persons, a number equivalent to 10 per cent. of the whole number of Government immigrants, have left the Colony during the whole period of 10 years.

If, however, we divide the decade into two periods of five years, it will be found that this loss occurred only during the first five years ending 1860, the second half ending 1865 showing an excess of immigration of 17 per cent. upon the whole number of assisted and free immigrants. For instance, in the five years terminating 1860, the excess of arrivals over departures amounted to 10,412 persons; the number of Government immigrants being 14,678, showing a loss of 4,266. In the last five years, the excess of immigration was 10,985 persons, of whom 9,403 were assisted by Government, showing that during that period, 1,582 individuals have arrived in the Colony at their own expense. This latter class would, of course, be increased by the number of Government immigrants who may have left the Colony during the period, but as it is impossible to distinguish them in the emigration portion of the returns, an approximation even cannot be arrived at. Sufficient data are, however, given to prove satisfactorily that without the aid of assisted immigration the progress of the Colony in regard to population will be tardy in the extreme.

During 1865 14 immigrant ships arrived, landing 4,625 souls, the average contract price for each adult's passage being 12l. 10s., the lowest rate, I believe, on record. The total expenditure for immigration purposes was 55,383l. for the 12 months. Between 1856 to 1860 the sum of 392,163l. was disbursed, and 131,398l. during the five years just closed.

Public Worship.

Six additional places of worsnip appear to have been opened during 1865, affording, with extensions of present buildings, further accommodation for 4,248 persons, making in all, 461 churches and chapels, with seats for 83,843 persons. Besides which, 173 rooms were used for religious services, being a few less than last year owing to the abandonment of several preaching stations, during the drought, in the far north;

South Australia. SOUTH

making the aggregate number of places of worship used during 1865 to be 634, with accommodation sufficient for 90,350 persons, or three-fifths of the population. The following figures show the progress effected in this direction during the past three

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Number of churches or chapels -	431	455	461
gittings in ditto -	76,813	79,595	83,843
roome need &c	170	180	173
sittings in ditto -	7,065	7,621	6,507
Total number of places of worship	601	635	634
sittings provided -	83,878	87,216	90,350
Sunday schools	360	382	384
Sunday-school teachers	3,017	3,254.	3,484
Sunday scholars	21,799	23,087	23,739

Satisfactory advancement is also evidenced by the attendance at Sunday schools, the large numbers recorded in past years not only being maintained, but a slight addition shown in the number of schools, teachers, and scholars.

Education.

The usual returns are given of the number of children attending the schools licensed by the Board of Education, but that body having lately issued an elaborate review of the state of education generally, it is necessary only to refer to the analysis of the

statistics therein contained, of which the following are the most prominent.

During the year 1865 it appears that the increase of both schools and scholars has been in a less proportion than in former years owing to the closing of three schools in the distant north from the long continuance of drought, and of some other country schools for want of sufficient local support. The increase in the number of schools was 12, or only five per cent., the addition in the number of scholars being at the same rate, or 727 only.

At the most favourable period of the year, the month of October, the number of schools open was 279, the number of scholars on the rolls, 7,577 boys and 6,103 girls, total 13,680; of whom 10,805 were in attendance. The average number on the roll at each school was 49, and the average attendance 38. Seventy-nine per cent. of the scholars on the roll were in attendance. These figures show a slight improvement on

the returns of former years.

The proportion of the sexes at school was nearly the same as in several preceding years, viz.: Boys 55:5 and girls 44:5 per cent. The ages of the scholars attending are as follows: -Of six years and under, 37.4 per cent.; of seven to 10 years, 42.4 per cent.; of 11 and 12 years, 14.5 per cent.; and as only 5.7 per cent. of the children were of 13 years of age and upwards, the proportion at the higher period of age is therefore still decreasing.

Six additional school-houses were placed under trust of the Board during the year for educational purposes, making the total number so held to be 62, assistance having been given by the Government by way of grant to the building fund in all cases,

amounting in the whole to 11,209l. since the introduction of the system.

The financial returns show 13,611l. to have been paid by the Board during the years in stipends to teachers, or an average of 19s. 103d. for each scholar, whilst the aggregate amount of school fees received from the parents of the scholars was 13,047l., or an average of 11. 0s. 6d., showing the total cost of a child's education at the common schools to be 2l. 0s. $4\frac{1}{2}d$. per annum.

The greatest number of destitute children at the schools during the year was 934, and for which the Board paid school fees amounting to 979l. 4s. 9d., or 1l. 0s. 111d. for

each child, showing a decrease on the previous year of 71 children.

The returns furnished by the secretary of the South Australian Institute show very satisfactory instances of additional means of usefulness in the cause of education, and particularly with respect to country institutes, which now number 39 in active operation. During the past decade 160,849l. has been expended by the State for educational

purposes, the disbursements during 1865 amounting to nearly 20,000l. sterling.

Charitable Institutions.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Medical relief was granted to a greater number of persons than during 1864; 94 more patients receiving treatment at the Adelaide Hospital in the course of the past year. The total number of cases treated in 1865 was 1,146, as compared with 1,052 in 1864; of these 760 were males and 386 females, the additional number of the former sex being 93, and of the latter one only. At the commencement of the year there were in the hospital, 115 patients—79 males and 36 females; at its close, 98 males and 39 females, or 137 altogether. The daily average number of inmates was 121—82 males and 39 females; the proportion of the latter sex being less than in former years. Out of 1,146 patients treated, 899 were discharged—752 being cured and 147 relieved -and 110 died-77 males and 33 females; leaving 137 resident at the end of the year as stated. The average duration of a patient's residence in the institution was, in acute diseases 18 days, and in chronic cases from 80 to 89 days. An elaborate return is given in the form introduced last year, showing the various diseases treated, classified upon the same system as the nosological tables now in use in the registration of deaths; together with the sex of the patient; whether cured or relieved; the number of deaths, and the number of inmates suffering from each particular ailment, on the first and last days of the year.

The records of the lunatic asylum exhibit a more favourable aspect than has been the case for some years, there being a reduction of four in the number of inmates at the close of the year. The admissions also were 12 less than in 1864, numbering 63—39 males and 24 females; of the latter sex the number admitted was the same in either year, the decrease appearing in the number of male patients. 262 patients were under treatment, of whom 43 were discharged cured, and eight left the asylum relieved. The deaths numbered 16, or five less than last year. The daily average number of inmates was 195, which was also the number remaining on the 31st December, of whom 108 were males and 87 females. The whole of the inmates, with the exception of five males and six females, on whose behalf sustenance fees were paid by their friends, were

supported entirely at the cost of the State.

From the return of the average number of destitute poor supported or relieved by the Government, exclusive of patients in the hospital and lunatic asylum, there would appear at first sight to be a large addition to the number of distressed persons, whereas on examining the returns it will be found that of the whole number of persons relieved, viz., 704, no less than 512 were children; the total number of adult recipients, both indoor and outdoor, being only 192, 97 males and 95 females. The whole of them were aged, infirm, or sick persons, no able-bodied person being at any time admitted into the asylum, whose adult inmates numbered 104 persons, 58 males and 44 females, a burden not greater than may be expected in a population such as ours. It should be stated that many of the outdoor cases are females whose husbands have deserted them, or who are widowed, and who with their children receive partial relief.

With regard to the children, however, it is a lamentable fact that the numbers of destitute orphans and deserted children is rapidly increasing. On the average 512 children were receiving support from the Government (as against 356 the year before), 76 being inmates of the Destitute Asylum, the remaining 436, 210 boys and 226 girls, being distributed throughout the Colony, receiving it is to be feared but little of that care and attention which could be devoted to them were they congregated at industrial schools or similar institutions in the neighbourhood of the chief centres of population. The Board of Education disburse about 1,000l. annually in the payment of fees for

destitute children attending licensed schools.

The amount expended, exclusive of buildings, during the past year in the relief of the destitute poor was 8,178l; on account of the medical and hospital departments, 7,646l.; and at the lunatic asylum, 5,851l., or altogether 21,675l., being just 50 per cent. advance in the cost to the State for these services during a period of four years.

Crime.

The criminal records of the Province exhibit an unusual number of offences committed in 1865 as compared with previous years, and especially so in felonious offences against the person and against property, in which classes the number of convictions in the preceding year had been smaller than in either of the previous 10 years.

In the Supreme Court 134 prisoners were convicted out of 197 committed for trial, showing an increase of 93 commitments and 64 convictions. In 12 cases the offence was against the person, as compared with four in 1864, and 98 against property as compared with 37 in the previous year, the remaining 24 convictions being for misdemeanors. The

South AUSTRALIA. crimes of most frequent occurrence in 1865 were embezzlement, larcenies, stealing from dwelling houses and from the person, and forgery. This sudden increase in crime is more strikingly apparent from the fact that of late years we have been singularly free, the commitments per 1,000 persons having gradually been reduced from 2.289 in 1859 to 1.308 in 1864, rising, however, in 1865 to 1.705. The average for that period was 1.729 in 1,000, or one commitment in 595 persons. When the rapid influx of population during the past two years is taken into account, and also that some accessions have not been from a desirable class, it is satisfactory than otherwise to find that the commitments in 1865 did not exceed the average number. It may further be stated, as evidence that the exertions and vigilance of the police officers have not diminished, that the proportion of offenders convicted before a jury has increased from five in every 10 to seven in every 10 persons placed on their trial.

	Population.	C	ommitments.		Ratio of Co	mmitments.	Convictions	Ratio of Convictions in	
Year.		To Supreme Court.	To Local Courts.	Total.	Per 1,000.	Or,	in Supreme Court.	Supreme Court to Commitments.	
1859	122,735	168	113	281	2.289	1 in 437	93	5.5 in ten	
1860	124,112	145	98	243	1.958	1 in 510	78	5.5 in ten	
1861	126,830	125	120	245	1.932	1 in 522	62	5 in ten	
1862	135,329	117	90	207	1.529	1 in 654	64	5.5 in ten	
1863	140,416	125	74	192	1.388	1 in 706	86	7 in ten	
1864	147,341	104	88	192	1.308	1 in 767	70	7 in ten	
1865	156,605	197	79	276	1.705	1 in 567	134	7 in ten	
			Mean of se	ven years	1.729	1 in 595		6 in ten	

With reference to the above, it need hardly be said that the amount of crime thus shown to exist in South Australia is below that exhibited in the returns of the mother

country, and far beneath that prevailing in the neighbouring Colonies.

Again, if comparison be instituted in like manner with regard to the nature of the crimes perpetrated, it will be seen that this Province has been remarkable for the absence of crimes of a serious nature. During the past 10 years, out of 820 prisoners tried in the Supreme Court, only 95 were for offences against the person, or less than 10 per annum, whilst in the same period it was necessary to carry the extreme penalty of the law into effect in but two instances.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue returns for the year 1865 exhibit a remarkable increase in all sources of income, but more especially in the Land Fund receipts. The total revenue for the 12 months amounted to 1,089,128l., as compared with 775,837l. in 1864, an addition of 313,291l., or 42 per cent. The great demand for land, and the high price paid, swelled the amount of the land sales to the large sum of 504,677l., or an increase of 256,672l., or nearly twice the sum received in the previous year. The customs revenue was also greater than had been collected in any preceding year. This, the only source of taxation, produced 240,183l., or one-fifth more than last year, being at the rate of 30s. per head of the population, a lower rate than is imposed upon any other Australian community.

The monies derived from the occupation of the Crown lands increased by 50 per cent., or from 48,361l. in 1864 to 73,891l. in 1865, the augmented rents under the new pastoral leases having become due. The receipts from the railways also increased from 118,307l. to 134,070l., or by 15,763l., nearly 12 per cent. Other sources of revenue, as water rates, harbour dues, postages, licences, fines, fees, and forfeitures, and telegraph receipts, also show marked advances, indicating considerable activity and progress. comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the two years, in detail, is inserted in the tables, in addition to the usual returns, to which reference may be usefully made.

The total expenditure of the Government amounted to 790,504l., or 163,815l. more than in 1864. The chief items of increase are in public works, immigration, contingencies, and salaries, provisional and temporary, which latter item includes the payment of wages to workmen in Government employ. The amount expended on public works out of the general revenue was 223,083l., in addition to 18,654l. out of the Loan Fund,

which, together with a sum of 93,056l set apart for the payment of interest on and redemption of loans for public works, makes a total disbursement on account of permanent improvements of 334,793l, as compared with 248,004l in 1864. The immigration expenditure was 53,688l, as against 36,850l in the previous year.

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The public account showed a surplus of receipts over payments of 298,624*l*. 6s. 4d., or more than one-fourth of the total amount of the year's revenue, augmenting the balance in hands of the treasurer, which stood at 219,015*l*. 17s. 5d. on the 1st January to 517,640*l*. 3s. 9d. at the close of the year.

This accumulation resulted principally from the beneficial operation of the law known as "Sutherland's Act," which provides that two-thirds of the amount received from the sale of the public estate should be devoted to the prosecution of works of public utility, and one-third to the introduction of immigrants. On the 31st December the balance to the credit of the Public Works Fund was 152,236l., and that to the credit of the Immigration Fund amounted to 207,903l. The disbursements from both funds are regulated by the annual vote of Parliament. Up to this date the departmental charges for the management of the public lands and for the execution of public works have not yet been made a charge on those funds, having been defrayed from the ordinary revenue; but steps will doubtless shortly be taken to place the account on a proper footing in this respect. The surplus of the ordinary revenue, which has amounted annually to a large sum, after meeting the ordinary and extraordinary expenses of Government, is carried to the debit of the public works account. The treasurer was debited with the following balances of revenue on the 31st December 1865, viz., to balance of ordinary revenue, 105,558l. 16s. 7d.; to balance of Public Works Fund, 152,236l. 15s. 9d.; to balance of Immigration Fund, 207,903l. 3s., and to balance of Part III., Public Works, &c., 51,941l. 8s. 5d., making a total of 517,640l. 3s. 9d. to the credit of the Province at the opening of the present year.

The Treasury balance was deposited with the several local banks, and all but a small portion required in current account was bearing interest at six per cent. per annum, being the rate paid by Government to holders of the bonded debt.

Loans for Public Works.

A further reduction has been effected in the amount of the bonded debt incurred for the construction of reproductive public works, being in aid of sums appropriated from the general revenue for such purposes.

Bonds to the amount of 43,100*l*. have been redeemed during the year, leaving the sum of 796,200*l*. outstanding on 31st December 1865. The rate per head of the population at that date was 5*l*. 1s. 8*d*., or nearly two-thirds less than the rate of indebtedness existing in the adjoining Colonies.

There has been no fresh loan authorized since 1863, when that for the Port Adelaide waterworks was contracted. Our present debt will be liquidated gradually during the next 26 years.

Banking.

Returns of the average assets and liabilities of the five banks carrying on business in Adelaide throughout the year 1865 have been published half-yearly in the usual manner. An exclusively local bank was opened in December, but was not required to make a return. The following statement, therefore, of the business transacted during the six months ending 31st December 1865 applies only to those in operation during the whole year. It will be seen that the total average liabilities of the banks have increased from one million sterling in 1863 to two millions in 1865, and the average assets from two millions sterling in the former year to three millions in the latter; and, further, that during the year 1865 the assets increased from 2,361,300l. to 3,031,705l., or by the sum of 670,405l., whilst the liabilities advanced from 1,498,473l. in 1864 to 1,947,217l. in 1865, or by 448,744l. only. Another important feature in these statements is the large increase in deposits during the twelve months, viz., from 1,158,931l. to 1,568,151l., an addition of 409,220l., whilst the discounts were augmented from 1,724,759l. to 2,424,924l., or by the large sum of 700,165l. sterling. Since 1863 the note circulation has advanced by 108,031l., standing now at 340,512l., the amount of coin, bullion, and Government securities held by the banks increasing in a somewhat less proportion, namely, from

South Australia. 331,475l. in 1863 to 450,596l. at the date of the returns now reviewed. Full particulars as respects each bank are given in the returns for both half-years; but the following statement of the aggregate assets and liabilities of the several banks collectively for the six months terminating in December of 1863, 1864, and 1865 respectively, will be found useful for purposes of comparison.

LIABILITIES.

				1863	er.		1864			1865		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d	£	s.	d.
Notes in circulation -		-		232,481	18	9	315,126	6	8	340,512	2	10
Bills in circulation -		77.0		7,832	7	8	12,700	9	9	12,138	12	7
Balances due to other banks		_		24,904	5	0	11,715	2	4	26,415	4	7
Deposits	-			787,104	2	11	1,158,931	11	11	1,568,151	1	1
Total average Li	abilities		-	1,052,322	14	4	1,498,473	10	8	1,947,217	1	1

ASSETS.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Coin and bullion	£ s. d. 326,875 11 8 4,600 0 0 55,185 11 10 7,170 3 10 82,561 5 9 1,603,564 12 11	411,710 3 0 4,600 0 0	£ s. d. 445,996 19 8 4,600 0 0 69,257 16 11 13,325 11 8 73,600 3 5 2,424,924 8 8
Total average Assets	2,097,957 6 0	2,361,300 11 8	3,031,705 0 4

The rates of interest allowed on deposits for fixed periods have been maintained, excepting particular lodgments for which special arrangements were made. The course of exchange has generally ruled lower than in former years, as will be seen on reference to the returns under that head, showing the variations throughout the year, as furnished by the several banks in minute detail. The average amounts of notes in circulation, and the reserves of coin held by each bank during the past 10 years, are also comprised in the returns now given.

Savings Bank.

The advantages of this institution were farther rendered available by the opening of three branches during 1865 at the important towns of Mount Gambier, Gawler, and Kapunda, affording facilities to depositors largely availed of, the new accounts opened numbering 2,333, or nearly one-third more than during the previous 12 months. The additional number of depositors was also greater than recorded in any previous year, numbering 1,233. The total funds of the bank on the 31st December 1865 amounted to over a quarter of a million sterling (274,071l.), the balance to the credit of the depositors reaching 258,693l., and the reserve fund 15,378l. The amount deposited was 131,115l., and the sum withdrawn 115,751l., an increase over 1864 on the former item of 10,191l., and on the latter of 28,020l., the increase in the total amount of the depositors' balances being 26,721l. Although it may be expected that as the operations of the institution are extended in number and amount, so will the deposit accounts become more active, it will nevertheless be observed that its patrons have found other employment for their surplus capital more readily than in either of the past few years. The extension of the business of the bank during the last quinquennial period has been so remarkable that the following comparative statement will be read with interest, as it shows that since 1861 the new accounts opened during 12 months and the yearly increase in depositors more than doubled; that the balance to credit of depositors has

increased 100 per cent.; that the reserve fund has increased 50 per cent., and that the total assets of the bank are now twice the amount they were five years ago.

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				1861.	1862,	1863.	1864.	1865.
New accounts opened (numbe	r)			1,081	1,264	1,440	1,806	2,333
Increase in depositors (number			-	681	629	834	1,132	1,233
	,			£	£	£	£	£.
Amount deposited -		21	-	65,373	79,482	91,783	120,924	131,115
" withdrawn -	-	-	-	37,627	54,495	63,393	87,731	115,751
" depositors' balances	-	-	-	121,414	152,663	189,143	231,972	258,693
" reserve funds -	**	-	-	10,175	10,842	12,062	13,431	15,378
" total funds -	-		-	131,590	163,506	201,205	245,403	274,071

The funds of the depositors are secured by loans on mortgage of freehold property, bearing interest at 7½ per cent., amounting to 181,895l., by bank deposits, and by Government securities; the profits allowing of a rate of interest of five per cent. per annum, which has been the rate paid to depositors for several years.

Imports and Exports.

Compared with the trade of 1864, when the external commerce of the Colony increased nearly one-third in a single year, the operations of 1865 show but a slight advance, namely six per cent. only; it is, however, important to note that so great an extension of business has been more than maintained during the past year. The combined import and export trade of 1865 amounted to over six millions sterling, being just double what it was ten years ago. The total imports in 1865 amounted to 2,927,596l., and the exports to 3,129,846l., together, 6,057,442l., as compared with total imports in 1864 of 2,412,931*l.*, and exports of 3,305,545*l.*, together, 5,718,476*l.*; showing an increase of 338,966*l.* in the trade of the year, or six per cent. as above stated. Compared with the year before last the increase in business would amount to 38 per cent.

Following upon a year of unexampled prosperity, and one in which the exports of staple produce alone increased to the extent of a million sterling, or 45 per cent., it is not surprising that the total imports of 1865 increased one-fifth, and that the enhanced purchasing power of the community necessitated a like advance in the value of goods cleared for home consumption, 2,122,923l. and 2,552,407l. being the value in the respective years, a difference of 429,484l. sterling. The increase in the imports of 1864 over 1863 was likewise at the rate of 20 per cent. In 1865 we consumed in the Colony imported goods equal to 16l. 6s. per head for each individual of the community (the rate in the previous year being 14l. 8s. per head), all but a fraction being the manufacture or productions of the mother country and her possessions.

Turning to the exports a decrease will be seen of 175,699l., or about five per cent. below the total shipments of 1864, in which year they amounted to the unprecedented sum of 3,305,545l. sterling, in 1865 only reaching 3,129,846l. in value, showing, however, a large increase upon 1863, when they amounted to 2,358,817l. sterling, evidencing a satisfactory advancement in the producing capabilities of the Colony.

Although the exports of staple produce show a reduction of 260,880l. in 1865, as against an addition of 920,181l. in 1864, which addition was six times greater than the increase in 1863, it must not be forgotten that the value of the raw material exported in 1865 was three quarters or a million sterling, or nearly one-third more than the value of the shipments only two years since, or nearly five times the annual increase then recorded.

Nine-tenths of our exports are the staple productions of the country, but it is still satisfactory to notice an increasing intercolonial trade in articles of foreign manufacturethe value of the imports re-exported amounting to 375,189l., as compared with 290,008l. in 1864, showing an addition of 85,181l., or 30 per cent., in this branch of our export

In 1864 the staple produce exported was valued at 42 per cent. more than the goods cleared for home consumption, the difference between the two sums being 892,6141. in favour of exports. Last year this difference was only 202,250l. in favour of exports, or eight per cent. only, the shipments of staple products amounting to 2,754,6571., and the value of goods introduced into consumption being 2,552,407l. It is somewhat significant that the increase in the imports of 1865 (429,484l.) is in amount not quite one half of the preceding year's excess of exports over imports (892,614l.), the balance (the re-

South maining half million) doubtless having been invested in such a manner as to augment the Australia. future productiveness of the Colony. Nor should the fact be overlooked that a very considerable portion of the imports are of such a character as to add materially to the value of the real estate of the community.

With a view to convey a true idea how rapid has been the progress of trade during the past ten years, I append a statement showing the combined import and export trade for each year since 1856, inclusive, the total imports, the imports retained for home consumption, and the imports re-exported, the aggregate exports, the value of staple products exported, and the difference between the latter and the value of imports

	Year.		Combined Import and Export Trade.	Total Imports.	Imports retained for Home Consumption.	Imports re-exported.	Total Exports.	Exports of Produce of the Colony.	Balance Produce exported over Imports consumed.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1856			3,032,269	1,366,529	1,099,156	267,373	1,665,740	1,398,367	299,211	
	_	-	3,581,624	1,623,052	1,408,664	214,388	1,958,572	1,744,184	335,520	
1858		_	3,281,536	1,769,351	1,612,207	157,144	1,512,185	1,355,041	-257,166	
1859	_	-	3,163,370	1,507,494	1,353,783	153,711	1,655,876	1,502,165	148,382	
1860			3,423,307	1,639,591	1,432,201	207,390	1,783,716	1,576,326	144,125	
1861	_	_	4,008,329	1,976,018	1,782,346	193,672	2,032,311	1,838,639	56,293	
1862	_		3,966,452	1,820,656	1,595,347	225,309	2,145,796	1,920,487	325,140	
1863		_	4,387,096	2,028,279	1,764,818	263,461	2,358,817	2,095,356	330,538	
1864			5,718,476	2,412,931	2,122,923	290,008	3,305,545	3,015,537	892,614	
1865	157		6,057,442	2,927,596	2,552,407	375,189	3,129,846	2,754,657	202,250	

Looking back ten years it thus appears that our combined import and export trade has doubled (being now six instead of three millions), our imports and exports respectively increasing in equal degree. The exports of produce have more than doubled, being two and three-quarter millions instead of one and a quarter, whilst our consumption of imported articles has increased 150 per cent., being an advance from one to two millions and a half sterling. The export trade in imported goods has also largely increased, especially of late years. The above table furthermore shows that in the ten years since 1856 our shipments of produce have exceeded the imports retained for home consumption by two millions and a half sterling, of which sum more than three-fourths is to be credited to the account of the last five years.

With respect to the nature of our external trade of six millions sterling, and the countries with whom we chiefly deal, it may be briefly stated that operations of any magnitude are confined to those with the mother country, and the Colonies of Victoria and New South Wales, transactions with foreign countries being limited to imports of small extent.

The combined import and export trade with the United Kingdom amounted to 2,706,584*l*., or half a million more than in 1864. The imports amounted to 1,741,690*l*., as against 1,217,568*l*., and the exports direct thereto advancing from 918,523*l*. to 964,894*l*. sterling. The imports to this Colony exceeded our exports to Great Britain by 776,796l., as compared with an excess of 299,045l. in the previous year. The most noticeable feature in these returns is the very large increase in the consumption of British goods. South Australia imported goods in 1865 direct from home at the rate of 111. 2s. 6d. per head of the population, an advance of 2l. 17s. 6d. per head over the preceding year; our markets, it must also be remembered, being further freely supplied with British manufactures by way of Melbourne.

There is a slight decrease in the amount of business done with Victoria. The large exports of agricultural produce to that Colony in 1864 had in the course of that year swelled the amount of the combined import and export trade to 1,951,729l., or double that existing the year before. Under such circumstances a deficiency in the year 1865 was not unexpected, it proving small however, being but 86,784*l*., the trade amounting to 1,864,945*l*. sterling. The falling off was almost entirely in the import trade, being 620,301*l*., as compared with 697,075*l*.; the amount of our exports being only 10,000*l*. less in 1865 than in 1864, the total value of shipments in either year being 1,244,643l. and 1,254,654l. respectively. The balance of trade was in our favour by the sum of 624,342l., as against 557,578l. in the preceding year.

As exhibiting the increasing magnitude of our commercial intercourse with Victoria, it may be stated that the trade between the two places during the past 24 months has amounted to nearly four millions sterling, or two-fold greater than existed in the

preceding like period.

The transactions with New South Wales in 1864 had shown an increase of nearly 80 per cent. This was not fully maintained during 1865. The total import and export trade, however, of the latter year reached 797,505l., as against 844,644l. in the former; the deficiency was therefore 47,139l. only. In 1864 the imports thence amounted to 212,517l., and the exports to 632,127l.; in 1865 we imported 239,820l., and exported 557,685l. worth of produce, showing a balance of trade in our favour in the latter year of 317,864l., as compared with 419,609l. in the former. Although trade with the elder Colony was not maintained to the same extent as in the preceding year, it must be borne in mind that transactions were effected of two-thirds more value than in 1863.

With Queensland business was almost entirely confined to exports hence, which advanced from 86,257l. to 93,031l.; whilst with New Zealand, in trade of a similar character, there was a diminution from 184,045l. to 143,987l. On the other hand, with Western Australia business intercourse has much developed, although the traffic is at present small in amount; the imports increasing from 2,472l. to 11,961l., and the exports from 12,221l. to 28,490l. With Tasmania, also, there is an increase of both imports and exports, the former advancing from 21,877l. to 36,438l., and the latter from 5,226l. to

10,641*l*.

Our exports to the Cape and Mauritius fell to a nominal sum. The imports from the latter place also diminishing, only amounting to 99,712l., as compared with 131,733l. in the preceding year. The shipments to India, consisting principally of fine copper and

ore, amounted to 76,970l., or 45,363l. less than in 1864.

Among other imports direct from foreign countries were goods of the following values, viz.: from China, 54,059l., as against 76,804l.; from the United States, 47,462l., as against 21,080l.; and from Sweden, 34,525l., as compared with 11,744l. With these countries there is no direct export trade in exchange for the commodities supplied to this market.

Exports, the Produce of the Colony.

In continuation of similar tables supplied in former issues, statements are appended furnishing detailed comparisons regarding the development of the material resources of the Colony, with a view of exhibiting the progress of the chief elements of prosperity over an extended period, thereby obtaining a more correct insight into their present

position, as compared with their progress during past years.

The following table shows the total value of the exports of colonial produce, and of the three principal staple products in the years 1856, 1860, and 1865 respectively; the beginning, middle, and termination of the past decade; also the aggregate value of those exports during the quinquennial periods closing in 1860 and 1865; together with the average annual shipments in the same periods, and the proportion which the shipments of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral staples respectively bore to the total exports of produce :

			Of which	h Exports.	
Period,	Total Exports of Produce.	Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.	Wool.	Copper and other Minerals.	Miscellaneous Products.
	£	£	£	£	£
In the year 1856	1,398,367	556,371	412,163	408,042	21,791
" 1860	1,576,326	499,102	573,368	446,537	57,319
,, 1865	2,754,657	1,228,480	821,482	620,112	84,583
Total in five years, 1856-60	7,576,083	2,890,976	2,395,861	2,097,718	191,528
,, 1861–65	11,624,676	4,786,219	3,571,350	2,853,920	413,187
Average of five years, 1856-60	1,515,216	578,195	479,172	419,543	38,305
,, 1861–65 -	2,324,935	957,244	714,270	570,784	82,637
Rate per cent. of average exports of					
1856-60	100	38.2	31.6	27.6	2.6
Rate per cent. of average exports of			V. V	-	2 0
1861-65	100	41.2	30.8	24.5	3.5

SOUTH Australia.

South Australia.

The above table shows at a glance the relative progress of the three principal industries during the past decade, whilst erroneus conclusions, which are sometimes drawn from a review of only a few years' transactions, are entirely obviated. For instance, at first sight it would seem that the exports of 1865 were twice the value of those of 1856, which was actually the case, but nearly the whole increase occurred during the last half of the period; and further, the average exports of the five years ending 1865, were but 50 per cent. higher than the average shipments of the preceding like period. In 1856 the total exports of produce amounted to 1,398,367l.; in 1860, they were valued at 1,576,326l.; but in 1865, they reached 2,754,657l. sterling. The average annual exports of the quinquennial period ending 1860, were 1,515,216l., the average for the next period ending 1865, being 2,324,935l. The aggregate exports for the whole decade amounted to nineteen millions sterling, of which, seven and a half millions belonged to the first division, and eleven millions and a half to the second division of the period, or an augmentation of four millions in the value of five years' shipments.

A similar analysis to the above may be made from the figures given in the table, as regards each of the three staple products, from which results of a like remarkable character may be deduced; but as a more precise view of their development may be obtained from a comparison of the quantities rather than from the values of produce exported, the latter fluctuating to a material extent, reference thereto is deferred until later paragraphs of the report, where the subject is fully discussed.

That portion of the table showing the relative value of the three classes of produce must here be considered, affording as it does, important and interesting information bearing upon the question of the employment of the people. Last year breadstuffs, wool, and minerals were shipped in proportion to the whole exports, as 12, 8, and 6; the year before, the proportion was as 14, 7, and 6. Both years were, however, exceptional in respect to agricultural produce, as on an average of five years (1861–5) the shipments of wheat and flour were 41·2 per cent., of wool, 30·8 per cent., and of copper 24·5 per cent. of the total exports. Compared with the previous quinquennial period (1856–60), the following differences are observable, the agriculturalists have increased their share by 3 per cent., the squatters diminishing 0·8 per cent., and the mining class 3·1 per cent. Although the productions of our mines are annually increasing in value, the rate of progression has been far less rapid than that of either agriculture or wool-growing, both of which have advanced during the past ten years with equal stride, subject to occasional temporary retardment; at one period affecting the farmer, at another the squatter. More minute comparisons may be effected by a reference to the following table, which has been carefully prepared, with a view of showing as correctly as possible the relative importance of each industrial class, based on an average of years:—

Class to total	'Exports of each	ge of Five Years Export	Ratio of Avera	th	nding wi	Five Years e
Miscellaneous.	Minerals.	Wool.	Breadstuffs.			
Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.			
5.4	28.5	29.0	37.1	-		1856
4.2	24.6	30.8	40.4	-	- 7	1857
3.3	25.4	30.7	40.6	-		1858
2.1	27.1	31.5	39.3	-		1859
2.6	27.6	31.6	38.2	-	1.	1860
2.8	26.7	32.5	38.0	-	-10/	1861
3.9	27.2	33.4	35.5	1		1862
3.9	27.0	33.9	35.2	-		1863
3.7	25.7	31.8	38.8	-	300	1864
3.5	24.5	30.8	41.2	-		1865

Before leaving this subject, it will be well to draw attention to the desirableness, made apparent in the above statement, of watching the progress of each industry carefully, so as to avoid in the future the ill effects of the undue growth of one of them. Still further to augment the production of wool and copper, so to assimilate more closely to the value of our breadstuffs, must certainly tend to a sounder and more lasting prosperity, should it even be necessary thereby to diminish the growth of wheat.

Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Following upon the prolific harvest of 1863-4, which produced 4,691,919 bushels of wheat, and enabled us to export 76,552 tons of breadstuffs, the shipments of flour and wheat during 1865, show a considerable falling off in quantity, the harvest having produced 4,252,949 bushels only, and the exports being 60,513 tons, or 16,039 less than in the preceding year. Owing, however, to the very large demand in the adjoining Colonies, from a second failure in their crops, and the uniformly higher rates at which the price of wheat was maintained in 1864, the value of the shipments was brought to 1,228,480l., or within 236,113l. of the previous year. In 1864 the average price of wheat was 8s. 6d. per bushel, and of flour 20l. 9s. per ton; in 1865 the former averaged 8s. 7d. per bushel, and the latter 20l. 10s. per ton. But whilst in the former year the season opened with wheat at 4s. 3d. per bushel, and for the first quarter averaged only 5s. 1d. per bushel, and the price fluctuating throughout the year from 4s. 3d. to 10s. 9d., the season of 1865 opened at 8s. per bushel, and was steadily maintained throughout the year, never falling below 7s. 8d., or rising above 9s. The whole benefit of the enhanced value of our cereal produce was thus obtained; and the deficiency in the crop nearly made up. The quantity of breadstuffs shipped in 1865 was, within a few tons, the same as in the year 1863, namely, 60,000 tons; it was worth, however, two-thirds more money.

Subjoined is a tabular statement showing the shipments of flour, wheat, bran, and pollard, during the years 1856, 1860, and 1865, also the total exports of those articles

during the two quinquennial periods, and the average for such periods :-

Period.				Flour.	Wheat.	Total in Flour, at 45 bushels to ton.	Bran and Pollard.
				Tons.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
In the year 1856	-	-		22,372	69,120	23,908	3,074
" 1860	-		× -	21,166	238,984	26,476	3,352
,, 1865	-	10.	- MEU-	38,251	1,001,768	60,513	4,819
Total in five years, 1856-60			AL C	118,973	1,088,320	143,158	22,240
,, 1861–65	-	-	-	188,405	4,868,240	296,588	31,935
Average of five years, 1856-60	-			23,794	217,664	28,631	4,448
" 1861–65		-	-	37,681	973,648	59,318	6,387

It will be observed that the total shipments, during the last five years, were double those of the preceding; and a like increase appears in the average annual exports. The exports of 1865, however, were nearly three-fold those of 1856; and whilst the shipments of cereals advanced from 23,908 tons in 1856 to 26,476 tons in 1860, during the next five years they advanced to 60,513 tons, and that with a harvest below the average;

that quantity having been reached in 1863, as above stated.

With regard to the markets open for the disposal of this large surplus, it has happened, fortunately for South Australia, that our neighbours' necessities were so great; both Victoria and New South Wales being compelled to purchase largely. The former took 15,537 tons of flour, and 68,410 quarters of wheat, as compared with 16,537 tons, and 104,146 quarters in the previous year; and New South Wales, 14,322 tons of flour, and 35,040 quarters of wheat, against 15,532 tons, and 63,136 quarters the year before. To New Zealand, 3,875 tons of flour, and 17,234 quarters of grain were sent, being a decrease; while the shipments to Queensland were slightly increased. These four Colonies purchased within a fraction the whole of our surplus breadstuffs.

Mineral Produce.

The value of the minerals exported during the year amounted to 620,112*l*., or 71,512*l*. less than in 1864; the quantity shipped, however, was not much below that of the previous year, the reduction in the declared value being partly consequent on the lower prices ruling in this market. A larger proportion of ore was shipped than usual, and less fine copper. Of the former 16,176 tons were exported, as compared with 4,545 tons, and of the latter 100,196 cwts., as against 134,055 cwts. The shipments of lead ore also much decreased, being only 86 tons, as compared with 567 tons in 1864.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA. During the past decade our mines have produced nearly five millions sterling; of which three millions nearly has been raised during the past five years. In 1856 the shipments were valued at 408,042*l*; from which year up to 1860, when we sent away minerals of the value of 446,537*l*., the average shipments amounted to 419,523*l*. per annum. Since 1860 the exports have steadily increased, showing an average export of 570,784*l*. yearly.

More reliable information as to our progress in mining may be gathered from the following comparative statement of the quantities of the several ores and metals shipped

during the past ten years:

Perio	ds.			Copper.	Lead.	Copper Ore.	Lead Ore.	Regulus.
				Cwts.	Cwts.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
In the year 1856 -	7	* 3	-	44,980	4	9,468	35	71
,, 1860 -		-	-	65,429	1,824	7,097	68	338
,, 1865 -			-	100,196	82	16,176	86	
Total in five years, 1856-	60 -	- 1		271,843	3,085	38,604	2,640	783
" 1861–	65 -	1	-	477,209	2,098	40,097	1,216	899
Average of five years, 185	66-60		-	54,368	617	7,720	528	156
	61-65			95,442	420	8,019	243	180

From the above it seems that the production of fine copper has increased from 44,980 cwts. in 1856, to 100,196 cwts. in 1865 (in 1864, 134,055 cwts. were exported). The shipments of fine copper in 1865 were 100 tons a week, as against 130 tons the year before. A fourfold quantity of crude ore was, however, sent away, namely, 16,176 tons, as compared with 4,545 tons. The average yearly shipments of fine copper, during the five years preceding the discoveries in the Wallaroo mineral district, amounted to 54,368 cwts. Since that date they have averaged 95,422 cwts., an increase of 80 per cent.; whilst the average export of copper ore has also been maintained.

The following table shows the quantities and values of different minerals shipped during the past five years:—

		Mineral	s.			1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Fine copper				-{	Cwts.	61,047 294,572	85,872 400,591	96,039 447,944	134,055 637,791	100,196 433,795
Copper ore	1 to	-		-{	Tons	7,817 133,749	6,216	5,343	4,545 38,125	16,176
Lead -				-{	Cwts.	1,256 4,426	426 981	271 `525	63 121	82 133
Lead ore	-	-		-{	Tons £	15 300	97 2,266	450 9,007	567 13,107	86 1,507
Regulus	-			-{	Tons £	390 19,125	418 19,518	39 1,655	52 2,480	_
	Т	otal valu	е -	17/4	- £	452,172	547,619	542,393	691,624	620,112

In connexion with this subject it may be mentioned that the requirements of the smelting works have necessitated a vast increase in the importation of coal, the imports now reaching 57,980 tons per annum, as compared with 19,980 tons in 1860, and 13,573 tons in 1856, employing a large amount of shipping.

Wool.

During 1865 the number of bales of wool shipped was 56,182, showing an increase of 5,236 bales on the previous year's shipments; the total weight being 18,945,426 lbs. as compared with 17,496,551 lbs. in 1864, and 16,568,979 lbs. in 1863. The declared value amounted to 974,397l. as against 849,125l. and 776,545l. in the two preceding years respectively; this increase is, however, occasioned by the larger quantity of Murray-borne and Western Australian wool transhipped at Port Adelaide, the export of South Australian wool being only 177,795 lbs greater than in 1864. The following

table shows the exports during each of the three past years ending on the 31st December:—

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

	Year en	nded 3	1st Decemb	oer.			1863.	1864.	1865.
							lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
From	Port Adelaide	-	-	-	-	-	7,321,137	8,472,298	9,734,297
22	Port Wakefield		-	-	-	-	2,799,000	1,774,300	1,908,678
"	Port Robe -		-	-		-	1,218,400	2,077,300	1,892,460
,,	Port Augusta	-	45.5	-	-	-	4,128,641	2,990,403	998,315
99	Port MacDonnell	-	-	-		-	39,309	771,656	1,217,013
,,	Port Wallaroo	-		-		-	60,300		137,007
"	Port Elliot -	-	100	- /	-	-		6,138	_
"	Port Victor	-		-	-	-		_	382,120
	W-4-1 TO	0.0							
	Total Export	of Sou	th Austr	alian	Wool	-	15,566,787	16,092,095	16,269,890
	Produce of oth	er Co.	lonies	7.14	-	-	1,002,192	1,404,456	2,675,535
	Total sl	nipme	nt (lbs.)	g siz			16,568,979	17,496,551	18,945,425
	Total sl	nipme	nt (bales) -		-	48,226	50,946	56,182
							£	£	£
	Total value of	South	Austral	ian W	ool -	-	715,935	775,656	821,482
	Total value of	other	Wool			-	60,610	73,469	152,915
	And new	Total	value		Der 201	-	776,545	849,125	974,397

It has been suggested that as the wool season is at its height in December and January the export returns made up to the close of the year do not show the actual weight of any given clip, and that such information is not to be obtained except with much trouble. I have therefore prepared the following table showing the desired particulars for the last four clips. The figures given are for the years ending 30th June, respectively, a period comprising as nearly as possible the aggregate weight of the season's clip:—

	Year e	nded 30th J	une.		1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Port 2	Adelaide -				lbs. 7,550,428	lbs. 10,112,815	lbs. 10,381,530	lbs. 9,277,556
,, 1	Wakefield -	-		1	2,282,400	10,112,010	1,833,800	2,981,078
17	Robe -			-	1,488,400	1,816,300	1,760,400	1,736,460
	MacDonnell	C 1 () 1		-	55,395	541,380	1,014,850	800,790
"	Wallaroo -			-	43,500	65,000		77,507
	Augusta -		-	-	2,798,673	4,294,400	2,206,325	998,315
	Victor or Po	rt Elliot		3 (2.		6,138	294,000	179,800
,, (Caroline .			-	_	-		72,383
	Tot	al weight	-	-	14,218,796	16,836,033	17,490,914	16,123,889

Comparing the above with the table previously given, it will be admitted that a more correct view of the position of the pastoral interest as regards the annual production of wool, is thus presented than has formerly been the case. The disastrous effects of the prolonged drought in the north are apparent in the falling off in the shipments from Port Augusta. That district contributed to the clip shipped during the 12 months ended 30th June 1864, 4,294,400 lbs., or to one-fourth of the whole; in 1864–5 it fell to 2,206,325 lbs., or one-eighth of the whole; but in 1865–6 only 998,315 lbs. were shipped, or but one-sixteenth of the total exports. Again the shipments from Ports Adelaide and Wakefield combined show no increase during the past season, in both years being about 12,000,000 lbs. weight, and there is a slight decrease in the exports from the south-eastern district.

The whole clip of the season 1865-6 amounted to 16,123,889 lbs., or 1,367,025 lbs. less than the preceding one, and 712,144 lbs. below that of 1863-4.

Looking back upon the rapid progress making in the growth of wool antecedent to the drought, the retrogression shown in these figures indicates but a portion of the loss the community has sustained under this visitation.

Respecting this view of the subject, the following particulars will prove useful, as

SOUTH showing that notwithstanding the sudden check in the quantity of wool grown, the AUSTRALIA. shipments of 1865 were both in quantity and value double what they were 10 years ago.

		1	Period.					Quantity.	Value.
								lbs.	£
In the year 1856	-					-	-	8,236,221	412,163
1960				-	-		-	11,731,371	573,368
,, 1865	-	•			1.1		-	16,269,890	821,482
Total in five years	1856	-60						46,934,735	2,395,861
"	1861						-	74,322,172	3,571,350
Average of five ye	ars. 18	356-60						9,386,947	479,172
Average of five je	18	61-65					-	14,864,434	714,270

The table briefly shows that whereas in 1856 we grew 8,236,221 lbs. of wool, of the declared value of 412,163l., last year we produced 16,269,890 lbs., worth 821,482l. When so much has been done in so short a period heretofore, it may be expected that under more auspicious circumstances than have lately existed the progress of a class producing nearly one-third of our staple exports will be again recorded.

River Murray Trade.

In this trade a considerable increase appears in the returns of 1865 over those of 1864, the combined imports and exports amounting to 266,862*l*. against 196,250*l*., or an advance of 40 per cent. The trade is almost exclusively confined to New South Wales, very few goods being landed or shipped on the Victorian side. The down traffic, nearly all wool from stations on the Darling, amounted to 140,105*l*. in value, and the stores sent up to 126,677*l*.; the former item showing an increase of nearly 100 per cent., and the latter of about one-fourth above that of the previous season. The exports to Victoria by the river last year amounted to 15,595*l*., this season to 80*l*. only; there have been no imports thence, river-borne, for several years. The number of steam vessels entered at ports on the River Murray was 36, or 14 more than last year, and the number of departures up river was 39, or 13 more, the total capacity being 4,620 tons.

Shipping.

Owing to the reduction in the quantity of breadstuffs for export fewer vessels sufficed for the requirements of our intercolonial traffic. The shipping returns show a diminution in the number of vessels cleared with cargoes, but in other respects they exhibit a similar number of vessels arriving and departing, and a considerably greater carrying capacity. In 1864 617 ships arrived of 160,095 tons; in 1865 619 ships of 183,102 tons, an addition of two vessels and 23,007 tonnage. The following tabular statement shows how greatly the number and tonnage of vessels visiting the ports of this Province has increased during the past three years:—

S	hips Inward	s.					Tonnage.	i de la compania del compania del compania de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania del compania de la compania de la compania de la compania del compania
1863.	1864.	1865.	Countries.			1863.	1864.	1865.
57	59	69	Great Britain -			28,265	29,948	42,074
164	260	230	Victoria			35,954	56,111	58,199
110	175	152	New South Wales	-	-	30,903	45,535	43,022
34	49	73	Tasmania -			4,427	5,684	8,690
2	3	3	Queensland -		-	368	571	356
17	17	29	Western Australia		-	6,253	5,246	8,940
8	15	12	New Zealand -			2,873	3,234	2,515
5	3	4	Cape of Good Hope			1,444	1,028	1,837
3	1	3	India and Singapore			1,604	472	718
20	15	17	Mauritius -			4,368	3,370	3,746
20	1		Bourbon				369	SALE -
2	1		Hongkong -		-	1,575	216	
1		3	Vancouver's Island		_	1,152	-	1,276
9	7	8	Sweden		-	5,331	3,671	4,257
1	1	1	Hamburg -	The big		120	188	160
2	7	11	United States -		-	1,521	3,788	6,484
1		1	Batavia		V	352	_	289
4	3	3	China	-		1,157	664	539
440	617	619	Total inwar	ds -		127,667	160,095	183,102

The above table relates to vessels arriving. Of the 619 therein stated, only 25, of 3,639 tons, arrived in ballast, and all but 31 were British vessels. The chief increase will be seen in the arrivals from Great Britain, which numbered 69 against 59 in 1864, the tonnage being 42,074 as compared with 29,948. The intercolonial arrivals were fewer in number, but of a larger class, than last year.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

One-sixth, or 104 out of 601 vessels, failed to secure loading and cleared outwards in ballast; during the previous year only 10 per cent. of the clearances were in ballast. The following statement, showing to what countries shipping has been despatched during the past three years, will be found useful as indicating the direction in which our export trade principally tends. The clearances in ballast were chiefly to Tasmania, Indian and Chilian ports, and Guam:-

SI	nips Outward	d.			Tonnage,	
1863.	1864.	1865.	Countries.	1863.	1864.	1865.
25	22	34	Great Britain	14,465	11,677	17,867
160	279	248	Victoria	34,469	59,473	62,402
93	139	136	New South Wales	04.050	38,008	39,092
13	21	37	Tasmania	1 550	2,617	4,629
54	60	36	New Zealand	13,739	14,119	7,706
11	20	22	Queensland	1 000	3,662	3,75
19	19	27	Western Australia	0,000	6,063	8,469
9	8	6	Mauritius	2,568	1,904	1,517
_	2		Bourbon	1	375	
3	-	11	Singapore	1,623		_
24	21	23	India	10 515	12,188	12,692
25	2	2	Cape of Good Hope	M 01 M	560	237
3	6	4	Batavia	1 005	2,210	2,104
1	1		Brazils	327	281	40 40
2	6	12	Chili	676	3,045	5,437
4	-	dama	Peru	0.400		_
-	3	2	China	-	895	1,389
	10	12	Guam	riche - year	3,856	6,896
446	619	601	Total outwards -	127,826	161,293	174,188

In addition to the above, 39 steamers, of 4,620 tonnage, and 327 men, cleared at ports

on the river Murray, as compared with 20, of 4,090 tons, in 1864.

The total number of the crews of vessels entering ports in South Australia during 1865 was 9,041 men, or 859 more than last year. 113 vessels, of 15,946 tons capacity, belong to Port Adelaide; an increase of 19 ships, and 3,004 tons, during the 12 months. The shipping owned at this port has increased one-half during the past five years.

Land and Cultivation.

My seventh annual report on the agricultural and live stock statistics, being for the year ended 31st March 1866, was published in May last. The following extracts are reproduced therefrom with a view to afford the more prominent particulars relating to those subjects, it being unnecessary to enter into fresh detail in this general statistical resumé:

"During the year 1865 no less than 316,476 acres of country and suburban land were alienated from the Crown, or 91,305 acres more than were disposed of during the preceding 12 months, making the total area of purchased land in occupation on the 31st December last to be 3,210,290 acres, or 20.5 acres for each individual of the estimated population at that date, as compared with 2,893,814 acres on the 1st January preceding, when the average was 19.64 acres, or 0.64 acres more than at the commencement of

"72,794 acres additional land were brought under cultivation during the past season, an increase more than twice as great as that of the preceding one. In the three counties of Gawler, Light, and Stanley alone, the additional quantity of tilled land was 55,896 acres, and an increase of one-fourth is shown in county Grey, which has now 21,420 acres under the plough. The total area under cultivation is 660,569 acres, as compared with 587,775 acres in 1864-5, showing an augmentation amounting to 12½ per cent., whilst the increase during the previous year was only 5¾ per cent. In my last report I stated that 20 per cent., or one in every five acres, of purchased land was under cultivation, as was the case in 1863, and that, notwithstanding the large purchases of land for 18352.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. grazing purposes, the ratio of cultivated to untilled land continued as one to four. I am enabled to show that, unprecedented as were the land sales of 1865, 316,476 acres having been disposed of by the Crown, the above proportions have not only been maintained, but have become slightly more favourable. Four acres of tilled land continue to be the rate per head for each individual of the population, or 12 acres for every male of 14 years

of age and upwards.

"The total area under wheat was 410,608 acres, against 390,836 acres last season, an increase of five per cent. only, or one per cent. less than in 1864-5. In the latter year, two-thirds of the total land in cultivation were under wheat. This season the proportion is slightly under that, being only 62 per cent. Two and a half acres of wheat are grown to each person in the community. The aggregate produce of the harvest amounted to 3,587,800 bushels, or 665,149 bushels below that of 1864-5, the average yield per acre being, so far as I am aware, less than in any preceding season, only amounting to 8 bushels 44 lbs. per acre. During the previous seven years the lowest yield recorded was 9 bushels 38 lbs. (in 1859-60), whilst the average for the whole period was 12 bushels, or 3 bushels 16 lbs. above that of 1865-6. The following table gives the total area of land under cultivation, the acreage under wheat, the gross produce of the harvest, and the average yield per acre for each of the past eight seasons:-

		Season.			Acres cultivated.	Acres under Wheat.	Produce, Wheat.	Average, per Acre
					12.53		Bushels.	Bus. lbs.
1858-9				-	264,462	188,703	2,109,544	11 11
1859-60	-				361,884	218,216	2,103,411	9 38
1860-1					428,816	273,672	3,576,593	13 / 4
1861-2				-	486,667	310,636	3,410,756	10 59
862-3		_		1	494,511	320,160	3,841,824	12 0
1863-4			-		555,968	335,758	4,691,919	14 0
864-5					587,775	390,836	4,252,949	11 0
865-6		1		-	660,569	410,608	3,587,800	8 44

"From causes before mentioned, the extent of land upon which hay was cut was increased from 66,570 acres to 101,996 acres, more than one-half, but as the crop only yielded 17 cwt. to the acre, or nearly one-fourth less than in 1864-5, the gross produce only resulted in an additional yield of 12,075 tons, being 88,731 tons in place of 76,656 tons. In 1863-4, the yield per acre was 27 cwt., and the total quantity secured 102,293 tons, off 75,590 acres, a fair average crop. It will thus be seen how serious a deficiency

has existed during the two past years in the supply of this article of fodder.

"Fewer acres of barley and oats were sown, and the yield was poorer than in the previous unfavourable season. Of barley, 9,362 acres were reaped, as against 12,585 acres, a decrease of 3,223 acres, whilst the gross produce was only 130,679 bushels, as compared with 207,022 bushels, the average yield per acre being 13 bushels 48 lbs., or 2 bushels 24 lbs. less than that of 1864–5. A decrease of 2,221 acres appears in the quantity of oats, only 2,872 acres having been sown, and the yield only amounted to 42,642 bushels, a deficiency of 32,493 bushels, the average being but 14 bushels 34 lbs. to the acre.

"Many additional acres are returned under the head of green forage, the principal increase being in the growth of lucerne and artificial grasses. Of the latter, 2,962 acres are returned as under successful cultivation in county Grey. The total area laid down for green forage was 7,576 acres, as against 2,639 acres last year; the returns for the past season giving 2,514 acres of wheat, barley, and oats, 230 acres of sorghum, &c., 1,424 acres of lucerne, and 3,408 acres of grasses, showing the following increases-1,702,

100, 568, and 2,567 acres respectively.

"Peas are now cultivated to some extent, and appear in the returns, for the first time, as covering 969 acres. Other minor crops, not specified, show an aggregate of 1,272 acres, or 999 acres more than last season. They include, among others, rye, turnips, mangold-wurzel, maize, cotton, tobacco, and hops.

"Fallow land appears as 110,037 acres, or 15,260 acres additional, being nearly the

same extent as was returned the year before last.

"The potato crop again proved a failure, only 4,823 tons being taken from 2,775

acres planted, or but 35 cwt. to the acre.

"The vineyards now extend over 6,629 acres, as will be noticed, a greater area than the orchards and gardens together. The increase during the year was 265 acres. The gross number of vines planted is 7,361,863, of which 5,255,889 are in bearing, and 2,105,974 are at present unproductive: 659,880 vines were added this season to the

SOUTH

AUSTRALIA.

former class, but as the diminution in the latter is greater by 66,000 than that number, explanation became necessary, when upon inquiry it was elicited that, although the area of the vineyards in some districts had been slightly augmented this season, in others the cuttings planted last year had almost entirely failed.

"The total quantity of wine made was 839,979 gallons, as against 798,647 gallons, or 41,332 gallons additional. 31,707 cwt. of grapes were returned as sold or disposed of otherwise than in wine-making, or 1,080 cwt. more than last year.

" Pastoral Occupation.

"Compared with the last returns, there is an additional number of horses, 73,993, as against 62,899, or an increase of 11,094, partly accounted for by the live stock in towns being returned on the census papers this year, a remark applying also to the following items, viz., goats, which have increased from 9,474 to 12,283; pigs, from 53,430 to 55,742, and poultry from 327,881 to 377,001, a not inconsiderable or unimportant

augmentation.

'The live stock statistics, however, exhibit but too clearly the losses the pastoral interest and the country have sustained through the long continuance of drought. This is the first occasion in which a diminution in the number of sheep depastured has been recorded, and although the number of cattle has been lessening year by year, the falling off during the past season was unprecedented. Nine years ago we depastured twice the number of cattle that we now do, 310,460 head, as against 158,057; then we counted three head of cattle for each individual of the population, now but one. During the past year their number has been reduced from 204,892 to 158,057, or by 46,835 head. Within the county boundaries there is a decrease of 10,978, whilst in the pastoral districts they have diminished from 62,527 to 26,670, or by 35,857 head. A portion of this loss may have extended over two years, as last season it was impracticable to collect the returns in two of the northern districts.

"The aggregate number of sheep returned is 3,779,308, as against 4,106,230, or a decrease of 326,922, or nearly nine per cent. less, as compared with an increase last year of 5½ per cent., the increase in 1864 having been 13½ per cent. Comparing the returns for the year 1864, which were complete, with those for the past season, we find in the northern district (viz., the country north of Port Augusta), that where in the former year 455,085 sheep were depastured, there are now only 133,199, or 324,886 less. whole number at present within the pastoral districts is 970,812, as compared with 1,314,026 in 1864, or a decrease of 343,214. Many flocks, however, were brought down within the limits of the proclaimed counties, as may be inferred by the increase therein, namely, from 2,577,616 to 2,808,496, or of 230,880; but if accounted for in that way, nothing would be allowed for the natural increase of the flocks in those portions of the Province.

"Instead of exporting large numbers of sheep as in several previous years, we had (in 1865) to purchase largely in the neighbouring Colonies, and our market has been regularly supplied for some years with fat cattle from the Darling. In 1864 we exported 186,526 sheep more than we imported, but in 1865 the balance was against us by 38,392, and during the first quarter of the present year by 32,837 more. With respect 38,392, and during the first quarter of the present year by 32,837 more. to cattle, the excess of imports has increased from 400 in 1864 to 6,456 head in 1865, and 770 arrived during the past quarter."

Railways.

The traffic returns show a large increase in the number of passengers travelling over the lines, but a falling off in the goods receipts, owing to the diminished quantity of wheat and flour for transport, on which the traffic on the north line chiefly depends. other respects the revenue from the carriage of merchandise showed an improvement over the preceding year.

The total number of passengers conveyed on both lines was 402,550, as against 359,035 in 1864, and the total goods traffic 261,183 tons, as compared with 255,928 tons

in the previous year.

The aggregate receipts amounted to 133,280l., as against 129,246l., the increase in the sum received from passengers and sundries being 4,865l., and the deficiency from goods 8311., showing a net increase of 4,0341., as compared with an increase of 31,9901. in the previous year. It must be borne in mind, however, that the returns for 1864 were remarkably favourable, owing to the abundant harvest of that year. It is therefore satisfactory to find that the extension of the passenger traffic has been so large, and that the diminution in the goods branch is not greater. In comparison with the receipts for

South Australia.

1863 there is an increase of 11,228l. in the passenger receipts, and of 24,382l. in the goods traffic, which, together with an addition of 414l. in the miscellaneous receipts, shows a total increase of 36,024l., extending over a period of two years. Subjoined is a comparative statement of the gross receipts and expenditure in each branch during the three past years.

			1863.	1864.	1865.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Gross Receip	TS.		No.			£	£	e
Number of passengers -	AT APPLIA	Contract of	309,898	359,035	402,550	2	-	2
Passenger receipts -	24 Cm	CONT.				25,788	32,274	37,016
Tons of goods	2	_	200,831	255,928	261,183			-
Goods receipts		_			-	69,192	94,405	93,574
Other receipts		-	-	-		2,276	2,567	2,690
		Total re	ceipts		- £	97,256	129,246	133,280
	Ross E	XPENDI'	TURE.					100 200
Management -						1,600	1,540	1,375
Locomotive department				- 10		18,353	19,366	18,824
Maintenance of line -				200		17,134	22,358	22,334
Other working expenses (inc	luding g	goods ag	gency) -		-	42,389	56,328	71,936
	7	Cotal ex	penditure		- £	79,476	99,593	114,469

With regard to the expenditure side of the above statement, which shows a very large increase in the total payments as compared with former years, the comparison as regards the charges for management, locomotive department, and maintenance of line is of a favourable character, but some explanation is necessary with respect to the item "Other working expenses (including goods agency)."

With this view the following table is inserted, showing the net earnings (after deducting "goods agency" from either side of the account), the working expenses, the per-centage the latter bore to the net receipts, and the annual profits returned into the Treasury:—

Year.				Miles open. Revenue.		Expenditure.	Per-centage of Ex-penditure.	Profit.	
					£	£		£	
1856			, 1	$7\frac{1}{3}$	15,873	15,236	95.4	637	
1857	energy and	FINAN !	-	241	39,528	37,774	92.0	1,754	
1858		112	-	$32\frac{7}{2}$	51,582	44,981	85.5	6,601	
1859			-	$32\frac{1}{2}$	48,068	39,871	82.5	8,197	
1860		-	-	45	55,588	43,636	78.5	11,952	
1861	S Agriculture of the	-	-	56	64,935	53,808	82.1	11,127	
1862			7-	56	67,483	54,400	80.7	13,083	
1863			-	56	70,420	52,639	74.7	17,781	
1864			-	56	95,490	65,837	69.0	29,653	
1865			-	56	98,919	80,108	80.9	18,811	

From the above it would appear that the profit on the working of the lines fell from 29,653l in 1864 to 18,811l in 1865, or by 10,842l, the working expenses increasing from 69 per cent. to 80 per cent. of the earnings. Such, however, was not actually the case, owing to large sums expended in the purchase of additional rolling stock having been debited to working expenses under an altered system of account. This outlay would, in the case of a company, be charged to capital account, and could that course have been adopted here, the profit accruing in 1865 would have exceeded that of 1864, instead of showing the large diminution above mentioned.

Altogether the railway returns for 1865 are of a very satisfactory nature, for they show that, whilst of breadstuffs there were nearly 12,000 tons less transported than in the previous exceptional year, the augmented passenger and general merchandise traffic made up the deficiency thus indicating a great development in the general trade of the country.

Roads.

South Australia.

The Central Road Board constructed 54 miles of main road during 1865, making a total length of 348 miles of metalled road completed under its superintendence, of which 267 miles have been formed during the last 10 years. In addition to these main lines, road communication has been immensely extended and improved through the agency of the several municipalities and district councils. There is not, however, any record of the total length of road formed under their direction; but some idea may be obtained from the amount expended by those bodies during the past decade, out of rates and the Government grant in aid, which has reached to an aggregate sum of nearly half a million sterling. Their expenditure on public works has latterly averaged 45,000l. per annum.

The Central Board of main roads has expended in the same period 766,000*l*., of which 111,129*l*. was paid last year, the whole being provided out of the general revenue. In the absence of any direct receipts from persons using them, the cost of keeping in repair such extended lines of metalled road entrenches largely on the funds at the

board's disposal.

Postal Communication.

Further postal facilities were provided in 1865 by the opening of 16 new post offices, and by an extension in the length of mail routes from 3,053 to 3,337 miles. The total number of post offices now open is 221, and the distance travelled by mails during the 12 months was 790,155 miles, or 56,629 more than in 1864. A large increase also appears in the number of letters and newspapers transmitted, as will be seen from the following figures, relating to the postal business of the past three years:—

1883 pridinento <u>— s</u> o nativo caso. 1883 kini matem e Baltis Sudine.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Number of letters Number of newspapers	- 1,817,379	2,189,474	2,444,207
	- 1,254,893	1,457,914	1,760,415
Distance travelled by mails -	- 657,772	733,526	790,155
	£	£	£
Income Expenditure	- 19,019	22,001	25,023
	- 19,694	21,485	23,417

Ten years ago the income of the post office barely met one half the cost; now the receipts exceed the expenditure, as shown above. In both cases the English and branch mail services are excluded.

Forty money order offices are now in operation, in connexion with both the post office and telegraph departments, and corresponding with all the offices in the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs.

The year 1865 completed the first decade since the introduction of the telegraph into South Australia, during which period lines have been opened connecting 45 of the principal townships within the Colony, and establishing instantaneous communication with all the more important cities, ports, and towns throughout the whole continent of Australia, now linked together by a chain of telegraph wire 8,500 miles in length. Within this Colony 855 miles of telegraph have been opened, the length of wire erected amounting to 1,173 miles. During 1865 four new stations were opened. The number of messages transmitted was 112,344, exceeding the number sent in the previous year by 5,470. The receipts likewise show an excess, 11,735l. as against 11,341l. There is a falling off in the revenue from the intercolonial line, but this is more than made up in the augmented local business. On the intercolonial line, however, the receipts show a large increase over those of 1863, with which year it may be more fairly compared, as the augmentation in 1864 was owing to exceptional causes. The facilities afforded by the telegraph, both within the Province and in the quick communication with the neighbouring Colonies, are every year becoming more largely availed of, and, notwithstanding the moderate tariff of charges, are secured to the public without any additional cost beyond the original outlay. The total sum expended on telegraph lines and stations (completed and in progress) since its inauguration, amounts to 99,178l., including the erection of substantial buildings, 12 of which also afford accommodation for the transaction of post office business.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Conclusion.

In closing this report, I would call attention to the useful table at the end of the volume, showing side by side the principal statistical facts illustrative of the progress of the Colony from its foundation to the present time, and exhibiting at a glance the advancement of the community in social and material resources, from year to year.

I have, &c. (Signed) J. BOOTHBY, Assistant Secretary and Government Statist.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. No. 21.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Hampton to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 55.)

Government House, Perth,

February 19, 1866.
I HAVE the honour to enclose the Blue Book of Western Australia for the year SIR, 1865, which has been forwarded to me with the accompanying explanatory letter from

the Colonial Secretary, dated the 14th inst.

2. It may be gathered from the statistical and other information now transmitted, that the revenue for the year 1865 was in excess of the expenditure to the extent of 2,957l.; that the exports have increased, that trade is flourishing, and that large tracts of new country have been explored and partly occupied, in fact, the Blue Book exhibits throughout more satisfactory evidence as to the general prosperity of the Colony than ever has been produced in any similar document.

To the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c.

I have, &c. J. S. HAMPTON, (Signed) Governor.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,

February 14, 1866. SIR, I HAVE great satisfaction in forwarding at this early date for transmission to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Western Australian Blue Book for the past year (1865), and to testify to the prompt and correct manner in which the returns have been compiled and sent to me from the several officers in this widely extended territory.

2. I am happy to state that the actual revenue received was in excess of that estimated by no less a sum than 3,904l. 18s. 11d., and that on comparison with the actual revenue received in 1864, there appears an increase of more than 6,000l., thus bearing testimony to the gradual and steady increase of the revenue.

The expenditure was in excess of the estimate of 1865 by 947l. 2s. 6d., and of that in 1864 of 4,370l.

The increased revenue has been received mainly from customs duties and from the extended amount of land rented for pastoral purposes. This latter item may be looked on as a permanent addition to the annual revenue.

The increased expenditure in 1865 may be attributed to the settlement of the north district, and the necessary establishment of magistrates, surveyors, and police in connexion therewith, and the cost of transport thereto.

3. Few public works of any great importance have been undertaken during the past The bridge over the river Swan at Fremantle is gradually progressing, and I shall doubtless be able next year to report its completion, and that uninterrupted communication has at length been established between the port and the capital. The convicts available for public works have been distributed throughout the Colony, in repairing and making roads and bridges, and generally on works for the benefit of the whole community.

expenditure.

Public works.

Their labour has caused the roads to be kept in a tolerable state of order, at reasonable cost, and the sums available for works and roads have not been expended in full.

WESTERN

4. A natural feeling of apprehension exists, that the approaching cessation of trans- Cessation of portation will throw a heavy burden on the colonists in respect to the keeping in order of transportation. the public highways, but there is no reason to believe that this will be felt to press heavily for some time, as convict labour to a certain extent must be available for many years, and the several sources of wealth now opening throughout the Colonv will, it is trusted, enable the Government to meet this question without difficulty.

5. The legislation of the past year calls for little notice, but a review of the history of Legislation. the Colony during that period must not be closed without a remark, however brief, to the existing feeling for a modification in the status of the Legislative Council. For some time a desire has been felt among a large class, that the time has arrived when the colonists should be permitted to exercise some influence in the conduct of public affairs, and viewing the approaching termination of transportation, and the fact that the Colony now pays its way, a petition for an elective council, in accordance with the provisions of the Imperial Act, 13th and 14th Vict., cap. 59., was submitted at the last session of the Legislative Council.

It suffices here to remark, that the petition was rejected and an amendment carried, that an addition to the number of non-official members would meet the present requirements of the Colony.

How far this amendment will satisfy the petitioners is a very doubtful question, on which it is perhaps inadvisable for me here to offer any opinion.

6. The population has slightly increased during 1865, the excess being little in addition Population. to the number of convicts that arrived during the year. The immigrants that have arrived secured employment without difficulty, and female servants have been in great

There is little doubt that a larger number of respectable farm servants and females would meet ready engagements at reasonable wages.

7. The Post Office savings banks established on the 1st September 1863 have been Savings Bank.

most successful, and are beginning to be appreciated as very useful institutions.

There were at the end of 1865 no less than 965 depositors, who had the aggregate

sum of 9,593l. in the banks.

8. The number of scholars attending the Government schools is gradually on the Education. increase, the average attendance during the past year being nearly 100 in excess of that

in the previous year.

The paucity of the population and their scattered dwellings render the establishment of good schools available for large numbers very difficult, and it has been found better to assist the formation of small schools by settlers, with a grant in aid, so long as the teachers are approved by the Government and adhere to the rules laid down for the conduct of schools supported or assisted by public funds.

9. For the first time in the history of the Colony, the exports have exceeded the Imports and imports by a sum of 10,000l., and the imports show an increase to that extent on the previous year, as those for 1864 did on the imports of 1863.

In 1865 also, for the first time, some 500 tons of flour the produce of the Colony were

exported, as above the requirements for home consumption.

Consequent on the scanty harvest of 1865, caused by long and severe drought, there is little hope there will be any export of breadstuffs this year; but in average seasons for the future, I have little hesitation in saying there will be considerable margin for

I have no reason to believe the exports of 1865 are the results of an exceptional year, and fully believe that the current year will show an enlarged amount, except in the article

10. I have to report an increase in the tonnage entered and cleared in the several ports shipping. in the Colony. The amount, though small and representing but an addition of about 16,000 tons, may yet be taken as an indication of the gradual improvement in the trade of the Colony, steadily increasing year by year.

11. I have again to note an increased amount of acreage under cultivation and a Cultivation, considerable addition to the live stock in the Colony. I have on former occasions reported that I believe the returns furnished to me on these heads are not generally to be depended on as substantially correct, and that they are in excess of the amount given. It would be almost impossible to furnish correct data on this subject, as the Government is dependent on the information given by interested parties who usually magnify their

possessions. While I think the aggregate numbers are altogether too large, I have every reason to believe there is a very considerable increase in the numbers of sheep, horses,

and cattle, the former especially.

Mines.

12. The mining capabilities of Western Australia only require to be thoroughly known to be appreciated. With the present small population and want of capital it is hopeless to work them profitably. Six mines have been working during 1865, and only 1,589 tons of ore have been exported, which is an increase of 433 tons over the amount exported There is no doubt that if these and other mines were properly worked the

export of copper and lead ore might be increased to an indefinite amount.

North and east districts.

13. The abandonment of the settlement at Camden Harbour, which was forced on this Colony by a large body of Victorian settlers, will retard the progress of the north district for some time. The time there wasted might have been usefully employed by the Government Resident and his party in exploring that portion of the coast from Tien Tsin to Roebuck Bay already occupied by squatting stations. This work is now being performed with a view to fix on a site for a port and town; and when these have been decided on, there can be little doubt that a settlement to some considerable extent will soon be made. The reports from Tien Tsin and Roebuck Bay are very satisfactory; the stock thrive and increase rapidly; the wool does not apparently deteriorate from tropical heat, and fresh shipments of stock are continually being made.

In the east district the Messrs. Dempster, hitherto the only squatters, have been joined by a squatter from South Australia, who is importing sheep from thence in

considerable numbers.

Lease and sale of land.

Crime.

14. I had the pleasure last year to note an increase of 150,000 acres of leased land in 1864 over the previous year; and I this year am glad to state that the acreage under lease in the settled districts has increased to the extent of upwards of 1,000,000 acres above 1864. In the north district there is additional country occupied to the extent of

This latter does not, however, bear rent at present. 2,000,000 acres.

In ordinary seasons this extended occupation of country would indicate the formation of fresh stations and increased flocks; it must, however, be attributed to the great drought of 1865, which has made it necessary for squatters to take up well-watered country near the coast, hitherto considered useless for squatting purposes. Experience is, however, proving that this portion of the country, so long neglected, is very valuable for summer runs; and it is not at all probable that it will again revert to the hands of the Government. There is every reason to believe that large tracts of country hitherto considered worthless will be brought into useful occupation.

The sale of land in 1865 is less than that of the previous year. I, however, anticipate that within the next two years, during which period several of the old Class B. leases fall in, there will be very large purchases of land now held in Class B. leases, which will come under Class A., and be let on annual tenure, open to purchase by all persons at

any time.

15. It is satisfactory to observe that in the Supreme Court during 1865, out of 27 cases under trial there was only one free man, the remaining number being persons either convicts or originally of the convict class.

The return of summary convictions calls for little remark. Deducting the convictions for drunkenness and other offences not strictly of a criminal nature, the amount of crime

is not very large when the nature of the population is taken into consideration.

16. In conclusion, I will only observe that the colonists have much to be thankful for

during the past year.

While the inhabitants of the eastern colonies have been suffering from an unprecedented drought, and their flocks and herds been devastated for want of water, there has been no

undue suffering from such cause in Western Australia.

In no year since registers have been kept has so little rain fallen, and though undoubtedly considerable inconvenience has been caused for want of water for stock, and much country rendered temporarily unavailable, there has been little or no actual loss, and the capabilities of the country have been tested. The drought, so far as it has extended to this Colony, will, if its influence does not continue during the current year, induce a favourable comparison of the capabilities of this with the other Colonies, and prove that much land hitherto looked on as worthless is very valuable for purposes of settlement.

His Excellency the Governor, &c.

I have, &c. FRED. P. BARLEE. (Signed)

NEW ZEALAND.

New ZEALAND. No. 22.

No. 22.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir G. Grey, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnaryon.

(No. 9.) Government House, Wellington, January 12, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit for your information, copies of the Statistics of New Zealand for the year 1865.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) G. GREY.

REPORT to the Hon. E. W. STAFFORD, Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Registrar General's Office, Auckland,

I have the honour now to present the statistics of New Zealand for 1865, completed in the form in which the statistical volumes for previous years (since 1853) have been issued. As you are aware, a very considerable proportion of the information has already been placed in the hands of the members of the Colonial Legislature, by means of four "divisions" of statistical tables which I forwarded to you at the earliest dates at which they could be prepared, and which were successively presented, by command of his Excellency, to both Houses of the General Assembly during the Parliamentary session of this year. Those divisions comprehended, the estimated population (with the tables from which the estimate was derived, viz., immigration and emigration, arrivals and departures between ports of the Colony, and births and deaths); trade and interchange (including shipping, and imports and exports, summarized and in detail); the series of tables relating to the post office; and the whole of the revenue tables, together with the tables relating to waste lands' sales, joint stock companies, and prices of provisions and live stock. All the tables thus issued by anticipation are, of course, included in this volume, which is, like its predecessors, designed for more general circulation and adapted for more permanent preservation.

In accordance with the plan pursued in former years, I proceed to give a general view of the substance of the most important information exhibited in the following tables, with some explanatory additions.

Population.

The triennial census of the Colony, taken for the night of the 1st of December 1864, necessarily forms the basis on which the population at the end of the year 1865 is to be calculated. The number of the people of European descent (exclusive of the military and their families) was then ascertained to be 172,158. Adding to this total the increase by excess of immigration over emigration and of births over deaths between the 1st and the 31st of December, amounting to 1,460, the estimated population on the 31st of December 1864 was 173,618,—viz., 107,301 males, and 66,317 females. During the year 1865, the excess of immigration over emigration was 12,309, and the excess of births over deaths 4,680, making the total (estimated) population on the 31st of December 1865 amount to 190,607, viz., 117,376 males, and 73,231 females. This increase of 16,989 during 1865 is centesimally (as compared with the numbers on 31st December 1864), an increase of 9.38 per cent. on males; 10.42 per cent. on females; and 9.78 per cent. on the whole population.

NEW ZEALAND. The proportions in which this progress was distributed through the several quarters of the year is compendiously exhibited in the following summary:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
First Quarter.			
Excess of births over deaths during first quarter ncrease from excess of immigration over emigration during first	339	453	792
quarter	2,066	2,118	4,184
Increase during first quarter	2,405	2,571	4,976
Second Quarter.			
xcess of births over deaths during second quarter crease from excess of immigration over emigration during	425	529	954
second quarter	976	1,007	1,983
Increase during six months	3,806	4,107	7,913
Third Quarter.			
xcess of births over deaths during third quarter	719	734	1,453
acrease from excess of immigration over emigration during third quarter -	2,502	754	3,256
Increase during nine months	7,027	5,595	12,622
Fourth Quarter.			
xcess of births over deaths during fourth quarter	691	790	1,481
ncrease from excess of immigration over emigration during fourth quarter -	2,357	529	2,886
Total increase during 1865 Population as enumerated in the census of 2nd December 1864 (adding 1,460,—viz., males, 721; females, 739;	10,075	6,914	16,989
the estimated increase between the 1st and 31st December 1864)	107,301	66,317	173,618
Estimated total population on the 31st December 1865 -	117,376	73,231	190,607

I have, as in other years, appended to the population table such an estimate of the population of the respective provinces as can be arrived at in the years when a census is not taken, adding, however, as before, an explanation of the reasons why the figures cannot be regarded as approaching so closely to accuracy as the estimate of the population of the whole Colony probably does. The numbers of births and deaths, and the immigration and emigration over-seas can, of course, be correctly compiled for each Province, but there are no means of ascertaining the amount of overland migration from one Province to another, and even the arrivals and departures between the several ports, as returned by the emigration officers, are evidently not to be fully relied on for this purpose; it being found that the arrivals largely exceed the departures shown in the returns, in consequence of the numbers of passengers who go on board after vessels have cleared at the customs, or are taken up at various places on the coast where there are no emigration officers. The numbers given for the Provinces, therefore, cannot be assumed to be more than an estimate (perhaps not very approximate) of the actual numbers, and, indeed, in its aggregate, necessarily exceeds the estimated total for the whole Colony by the excess of arrivals over departures in the official returns (amounting in 1865 to 8,072). Subject to the qualification thus stated, the distribution of the population in December 1865 appears to have been in the following proportions:—In the Northern Island, 38·93 per cent., and in the Middle Island, 61·07 per cent.; and in the Provinces separately, Auckland, 24·90 per cent.; Taranaki, 2·25 per cent.; Wellington, 9·62 per cent.; Hawke's Bay, 2·16 per cent.; Nelson, 6·99 per cent., Marlborough, 2·74 per cent.; Canterbury, 24·41 per cent.; Otago, 23·39 per cent., and Southland, 3·54 per cent.

Immigration and Emigration.

The immigration (over seas) to New Zealand in the year 1865 amounted to 18,916 persons, viz., males, 11,776 adults and 1,451 children; and females, 4,270 adults and 1,419 children.

The emigration (over seas) from the Colony during the year amounted to 6,607 persons, viz., males, 4,949 adults and 377 children; and females, 986 adults and 295 children.

NEW ZEALAND.

The net excess of immigration over emigration for the whole Colony was 12,309, being 3,782 more than the net excess in 1864, but 22,811 less than that in 1863, and 8,682 less than that in 1862.

In the Provinces, taken separately, in 1865, the net excess of immigration was, in Auckland, 6,096; in Taranaki, 13; in Wellington, 509; in Hawke's Bay, 21; in Nelson, 789; in Marlborough, 3; and in Canterbury, 5,435. In Otago and Southland the balance was on the other side, the emigration from those Provinces having exceeded the immigration by 352 from Otago, and 205 from Southland.

The following figures show the immigration and emigration of 1865, classified according to the countries from which the immigrants arrived and to which the emigrants

went :-

	Immigr	Emigration.								
		Males.	Females.	Total.				Males.	Females.	Total.
From	the United Kingdom Australian Colonies - Other British Ports - Foreign States -	5,473 7,443 204 107	4,368 1,151 164 6	9,841 8,594 368 113	To the United Kingdom " Australian Colonies " Other British Ports " Foreign States -		101	309 4,861 0 156	200 1,032 0 49	509 5,893 0 205

It thus appears that the excess of immigration over emigration, viewed in relation to countries, was, United Kingdom, 9,332; Australian colonies, 2,701, and other British ports, 368. As respects foreign states, the emigration exceeded the immigration by 92.

For the reasons assigned above (as well as in a note to the table), the arrivals and departures between the several ports of New Zealand (although correctly compiled from the returns of the emigration officers), cannot be regarded as supplying accurate information as to the extent of migration from one part of the Colony to another. Being, however, the only approximation which it is possible to offer, it is given in the usual Though not exactly reliable, the figures show a largs migration to the Provinces of Wellington and Canterbury, the excess of arrivals over departures numbering in the former 3,107, and in the latter 9,425.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

Although the note, that "the numbers of unregistered births and deaths cannot be ascertained," is continued at the foot of the tables, and is still, no doubt, to some extent requisite, yet there is every reason to believe that the proportion of such cases has greatly diminished, owing to the large increase of districts under the Registration Act (of which, at the end of 1865, there had been 74 proclaimed), and also, I trust, to the more general diffusion of an intelligent appreciation of the benefits, not only public and social, but frequently private and personal, resulting from compliance with the provisions of the law on this subject.

The total number of births registered in New Zealand in the year 1865 was 7,490, Births. viz., 3,847 males and 3,643 females, being an increase of 989, viz., 513 males and

476 females, over the numbers registered in 1864.

The total number of deaths registered in 1865 was 2,757, viz., 1,658 males and 1,099 Deaths. females. It is satisfactory to find that, notwithstanding the increase of population, and the corresponding increase of births, the deaths in 1865 numbered 164 (100 males and 64 females) less than in 1864.

Of the deaths in 1865, 824, viz., 438 males and 386 females, were under one year of age; 248, viz., 131 males and 117 females, between one and two years; and 233, viz., 128 males and 105 females, between two and five years, making a total of 1,305 (697 males and 608 females), or 47.33 per cent. of the whole, under five years.

The general total of deaths includes 151 (viz., 142 males and nine females) occasioned

by drowning, and 140 (viz., 120 males and 20 females) from other external causes, making a total of 291 (viz., 262 males and 29 females) from such causes, being 10.55 per cent. of the deaths during the year.

The annual loss of life by drowning is very considerable. Within the period of eight years in which this particular form of accidental death has been specifically noted in the tables, out of a total of 12,379 deaths, no less than 601, or 4.85 per cent., of the whole

were owing to it.

NEW ZEALAND. The following figures, although subject to some qualification on account of the unascertained numbers of births and deaths not registered, are interesting, as showing approximately the proportions to every 1,000 persons living in each of the last five

		Estimated	Bir	rths.	Deaths.		
	Year.		Population at Middle of Year.	Number registered in Year.	Ratio per 1,000 living.	Number registered in Year.	Ratio per 1,000 living.
1861		-	89,323	3,441	38.52	1,109	12.41
1862	1		112,416	4,064	36.15	1,231	10.95
1863		_	144,930	5,115	35.29	1,983	13.68
1864		-	168,833	6,501	38.50	2,921	17.30
1865			182,113	7,490	41.12	2,757	15.13

The average for the five years shows one birth to every 26 persons living, and one death to every 73 persons living.

The excess of births over deaths in 1865 was 4,733 (2,189 males and 2,544 females). The total excess of registered births over registered deaths in the eleven years included

in these tables was 26,135, viz., 12,234 males and 13,901 females.

The number of marriages solemnized in New Zealand in 1865 was 1,908, being 30 more than in 1864. Of these, 1,758 were by officiating ministers of the different religious bodies, and 150 by registrars. The numbers solemnized by ministers of the several religious bodies were as follow:—United Church of England and Ireland, 508; Church of Scotland, Free Church of Scotland, and Presbyterian congregations, 652; Roman Catholic Church, 258; Wesleyan Methodists, 181; congregational Independents, 86; Baptists, 37; Primitive Methodists, 32; Lutheran Church, 2; and Hebrew congregations, 2.

The tables show the numbers of marriages in the respective Provinces in each year since "The Marriage Act, 1854," came into operation, and the numbers solemnized in each year by officiating ministers of the several religious bodies and by district

registrars.

Trade and Interchange.

Shipping.

Marriages.

The information relating to shipping occupies six tables.

The first two show the numbers, tonnage, and crews of vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards at the several ports of New Zealand during the year 1865. 'The total inwards was 862 vessels, of 295,625 tonnage, being a decrease as compared with 1864 of 255 in the number of vessels, and 130,379 in the tonnage. The total outwards was 783 vessels, of 283,020 tonnage, being a decrease as compared with 1864 of 306 in the number of vessels, and 150,233 in the tonnage.

The next two tables show vessels, tonnage, and crews, classified according to the "countries whence arrived," and the "countries for which cleared." Of the total of 862 vessels inwards, 87, of 75,090 tonnage, arrived from the United Kingdom; 682, of 193,634 tonnage, from the Australian Colonies and other British possessions; and 93, of 26,901 tonnage, from Foreign countries (including the Southern whale fishery). Of 783 vessels outwards, 27, of 20,716 tonnage, cleared for the United Kingdom; 583, of 184,518 tonnage, for the Australian Colonies and other British possessions; and 173,

of 77,786 tonnage, for Foreign countries (including the Southern whale fishery).

The following two tables show the "nationality" of the vessels inwards and outwards. Of the total (of 862) inwards, 201 vessels, of 127,456 tonnage, were British; 591, of 144,541 tonnage, Colonial; 31, of 11,427 tonnage, American; 22, of 6,321 tonnage, Chilian; 4, of 1,266 tonnage, German; 3, of 1,289 tonnaeg, Norwegian; 3, of 698 tonnage, French; 2, of 1,136 tonnage, Swedish; 2, of 273 tonnage, Tahitian; 1, of 772 tonnage, Russian; 1, of 278 tonnage, Dutch; and 1, of 168 tonnage, Danish. Of the total (of 783) outwards, 163, of 112,144 tonnage, were British; 572, of 153,159 tonnage, Colonial; 32, of 12,500 tonnage, American; 4, of 1,189 tonnage, French; 3, of 1,289 tonnage, Norwegian; 2, of 459 tonnage, German; 2, of 270 tonnage, Tahitian; 1, of 772 tonnage, Russian; 1, of 568 tonnage, Swedish; 1 of 278 tonnage, Dutch; 1, of 224 tonnage, Hanoverian; and 1, of 168 tonnage, Danish.

The registered vessels belonging to ports of New Zealand (although the tables

relating to them are placed in a subsequent part of the volume), may conveniently be referred to here. The total number in December 1865 was 466, of 24,484 tonnage;

Registered

being an increase of 43 vessels, of 1,911 tonnage, as compared with December 1864. Of the total in 1865, 300 vessels, of 13,094 tonnage, belonged to the port of Auckland.

NEW ZEALAND.

The total value of the imports of the Colony in 1865 was 5,594,977l., against Imports and 7,000,655l. in 1864, being a decrease of 1,405,678l., or 20.08 per cent. This was the exports. net decrease in the whole Colony, (there having been an increase in the Provinces of Wellington, Nelson, and Canterbury). The following figures show the increase or decrease in each Province in 1865, as compared with 1864:-

- Decrease 380,336, or 17.04 per cent. Auckland Taranaki - Decrease 45,306, or 37.93 per cent. Wellington - Increase 158,148, or 39.83 per cent. Hawke's Bay -- Decrease 10,462, or 10.65 per cent. - Increase 120,677, or 43:13 per cent.
- Decrease 11,266, or 43:35 per cent.
- Increase 17,794, or 2:01 per cent.
- Decrease 860,433, or 34:98 per cent. Nelson -Marlborough -Canterbury Otago -Southland - Decrease 394,101, or 77.92 per cent.

A comparison of the value of the imports in 1864 and 1865, according to the countries from which they were received shows the following results:

		1864.		1865.		Decrease in 1865.
		£		e		
United Kingdom	- 3	,259,174		2,606,994		652,180
British Colonies .		,511,564	-	2,627,935		883,629
						Increase in 1865.
Foreign States		229,917	-	360,048	-	130,131
Tatala	-	000 655		E 504 077	(Nat Door)	1 405 650
Totals -	- 7	,000,655	-	5,594,977	(Net Decr.)	1,405,0/8

The total value of exports from New Zealand in 1865 amounted to 3,713,2181., against Exports.

3,401,667l. in 1864, being an increase of 311,551l., or 9.15 per cent.

Excluding the value of imported goods re-exported from the Colony, the comparison is still more favourable; the total value of exports of New Zealand produce and manufactures having amounted in 1865 to 3,503,421l., against 3,050,634l. in 1864, being an increase of 452,787l., or 14.84 per cent.

Referring more particularly to the two great exports of the Colony, gold and wool, it Gold. appears that the total value of gold exported in 1865 was 2,226,474l., against 1,857,847l. in 1864, being an increase of 368,627l., or 19.84 per cent. Of the total value of gold exported in 1865, the following were the amounts of the produce of the gold fields in the respective provinces; Auckland, 21,115l., Nelson, 266,833l., Marlborough, 30,814l., Canterbury, 903,549l., Otago, 1,004,078l., and Southland, 85l.

The value of wool exported from the Colony in 1865 was 1,141,761l. against 1,070,997l. Woo.

in 1864, being an increase of 70,764l., or 6.60 per cent.

The information with regard to imports and exports, thus briefly summarised, will be found at large in this volume. Tables XVI. and XVII. show, in a condensed form, the total value of imports and exports respectively for each year from 1853 to 1865 inclusive. Tables XVIII. and XIX. show the details of imports and exports at the several ports of The nine following tables (XX.—XXVIII.) contain summaries the Colony in 1865. presenting compendiously the totals of the several articles of export in 1865, as compared with previous years. Separate tables of this description are appropriated to gold, grain, Kauri gum, oil, potatoes, timber, and wool, distinguishing the exports from the several Provinces.

Revenue of the Colony.

The customs revenue in 1865 amounted to 730,008l., against 592,346l. in 1864, being an increase of 137,662l., or 23.24 per cent. The following figures show the progress of this branch of revenue during the last five years: -

			£			£		
1861		-	260,863,	being an	increase o	f 71,695,	or 37.90	per cent.
1862		-	399,436,	"	,,	138,573,	or 53·12	,,
1863		-	592,050,	,,	,,	192,614,	or 48·22	,,
1864	-	1	592,346,	,,,	,,		or 0.05	9)
1865			730,008,	,,	,,	137,662,	or 23·24	"

NEW ZEALAND.

The total ordinary revenue in 1865 amounted to 936,945*l.*, against 815,676*l.* in 1864, being an increase of 121,269*l.*, or 14.86 per cent. In 1864 as compared with 1863 the advance was 73,172*l.*, or 9.85 per cent. In 1863 there was an advance over 1862 amounting to 234,172*l.*, or 46.06 per cent.

The total territorial revenue in 1865 amounted to 500,045*l.*, against 714,770*l.* in 1864, being a decrease of 214,725*l.*, or 30.04 per cent. But in 1864 there was an increase, as compared with 1863, amounting to 190,366*l.*, or 36.30 per cent. On the other hand, in 1863 there was a decrease of 82,426*l.*, or 13.58 per cent., as compared with 1862; but again in 1862 there was an increase of 259,476*l.*, or 74.70 per cent., as compared with

1861.

The total of the revenue (both ordinary and territorial), amounted in 1865 to 1,436,990*l.*, against 1,530,446*l.* in 1864, being a decrease of 93,456*l.*, or 6·10 per cent. On reference to the comparative table of revenue, No. XXXI., it will be seen that of the 13 years included in that table, 1855, 1860, and 1865 were the only years in which the aggregate amount of ordinary and territorial revenue did not show an increase; and that in each of those years the falling off was owing to fluctuations in the amount of territorial revenue, the ordinary revenue having gone on steadily advancing from year to year. The total of both in 1864 showed an increase as compared with 1863 amounting to 263,538*l.*, or 20·80 per cent.; the total in 1863 was an increase over 1862 amounting to 151,746*l.*, or 13·60 per cent., and the total in 1862 showed an advance of 443,662*l.*, or 66·07 per cent., over 1861.

A table is subjoined, presenting a comparative view of the revenue, ordinary and territorial, of the several Provinces in 1864 and 1865, specifying the centesimal increase

or decrease in each province in the latter year:-

	Ordinary Revenue.						ritorial Re	venue.	Total Ordinary and Territorial.		
Provinces.			1864.	1865.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.	1864.	1865.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.	1864.	1865.	Centesimal Increase or Decrease.
			£	£		£	£		£	£	
Auckland -	-	-	184,920	225,157	iner. 21 . 75	14,566		decr.52 · 87	199,486	CONTROL OF THE CONTROL	iner. 16.30
Taranki -	-	_	26,436			_	_		26,436	20,610	decr.22 · 03
Wellington -	-		76,429	113,783	incr. 48 · 87	44,945	50,522	iner. 12.40	121,374	164,305	iner. 35 . 37
Hawke's Bay	100	-	18,345	25,599	incr. 39 · 54	20,420	22,730	incr. 11.31	38,765	48,329	incr. 24 · 67
Nelson -	-		37,683	51,061	incr. 35 · 50	26,661	20,131	decr.24.49	64,344	71,192	incr. 10 · 64
Marlborough		-	10,879	10,154	decr. 6.66	39,487	13,641	decr.65 · 45	50,366	23,795	decr.52 · 75
Canterbury -			114,092	192,663	iner. 68 · 86	251,281	200,932	decr.20 · 03	365,373	393,595	incr. 7.72
Otago -		-	284,617	263,066	decr. 7.57	247,922	180,934	decr.27.01	532,539	444,000	decr. 16 · 62
Southland -			62,098	34,757	decr.44.02	69,488	4,291	decr.93 · 82	131,586	39,048	decr 70.32
Chatham Islands			177	95	decr.46 · 32	_	-		177		decr.46 · 32
			815,676	936,945	incr. 14 · 86	714,770	500,045	decr.30 · 04	1,530,446	1,436,990	decr. 6.10

Income and Expenditure. The income and expenditure of the Colony in 1865 are shown in three tables. The first of these exhibits, on opposite pages, income and expenditure in their various branches, as relating to the Colonial Treasury and the Provincial Treasuries taken collectively. The two succeeding tables show the income and expenditure of the several Provinces taken separately.

A table follows which shows in detail the receipts and disbursements of the receivers

of land revenue in the several Provinces.

Funded Debt.

The funded debt of the General and Provincial Governments on the 31st of December 1865, (to which date the information it is to be understood strictly applies,) is shown in a table which specifies the following particulars; the authority under which each liability was incurred; the amount authorized to be borrowed; the amount of debentures in circulation; the rates of interest; the rates of sinking funds; when the debentures are redeemable; the amounts of sinking funds accrued; and what amounts are invested, and in what manner. Explanatory remarks, (necessary in some instances,) are added. It will be seen that at the end of 1865 the total amount authorized to be borrowed was 6,269,000l. The total amount of debentures in circulation was 4,368,681l. 11s. 4d. The total amount of sinking funds accrued was 136,197l. 7s. 6d.

Joint Stock Companies.

The total number of joint stock companies incorporated under the Acts of 1860 and 1862, to the end of 1865, was 60. Of these, one was incorporated in 1861; 13 in 1862; 19 in 1863; 12 in 1864; and 15 in 1865. Of the companies established in 1865,

five were in the Province of Auckland; two in the Province of Taranaki; one in the Province of Marlborough; and seven in the Province of Otago. Various particulars relating to the several companies from the commencement of the operation of the Act of 1860 will be found in the table.

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Land Sales.

The first of three tables occupied by information relating to land sales shows the waste lands sold or otherwise disposed of in the several Provinces during the year 1865. The second contains a summary of the totals for each Province during the entire period from the 1st of April 1856 (the earliest date to which the information could be carried back with accuracy), to December 1865. The third, by a classification relating to time rather than to locality, shows the totals for the whole Colony during each year of that period.

Prices of Provisions and Live Stock.

The average prices of provisions and live stock in the several Provinces in the year 1865 are shown in a table prepared on the same plan as in former years.

Post Office.

The total numbers of letters received at the several chief post offices during the year 1865, were—Foreign (from places without the Colony), 545,407, against 615,783 in 1864; and Inland (within the Colony), 1,690,251, against 1,496,988 in 1864; making a general total of 2,235,658, against 2,112,771 in 1864. The total numbers of letters despatched from the several chief post offices, and passing through the post offices in the several Provinces in 1865, were—Foreign, 593,429, against 639,809 in 1864; and Inland, 1,649,412, against 1,481,040 in 1864; making a general total of 2,242,841, against 2,120,849 in 1864.

The total numbers of newspapers received at the several chief post offices during 1865 were,—Foreign, 1,080,875, against 1,065,092 in 1864; and Inland, 731,374, against 766,390 in 1864; making a general total of 1,812,249, against 1,831,482 in 1864. The total numbers of newspapers despatched from the several chief post offices, and passing through the post offices in the several Provinces in 1865, were—Foreign, 661,506; and Inland, 1,742,522; making a general total of 2,404,028, against 2,546,932 in 1864.

A separate Table shows in detail the numbers of letters despatched to places out of the Colony during 1865; specifying the offices from which they were despatched and the places of their destination.

A comparative table shows the postal revenue in detail in the several Provinces for the years 1858 to 1865 inclusive. The total amount in 1865 was 46,475l. 9s. 3d., against 39,198l. 19s. 10d. in 1864; being an increase of 7,276l. 9s. 5d., or 18.56 per cent. This does not include the sums received on the issue of money orders (1,463l. 18s. 6d.), or for telegraphic messages (1,633l. 14s. 6d.)

The total number of money orders issued in New Zealand in 1865 was 17,236, against 16,591 in 1864, being an increase of 645. The total amount of these orders was 78,576l. 3s. 8d., against 78,556l. 19s. 6d. in 1864, being an increase of 19l. 4s. 2d. The total number of money orders paid in New Zealand in 1865 was 7,639, against 5,619 in 1864, being an increase of 2,020. The total amount of these orders was 36,409l. 17s. 1d., against 26,467l. 13s. 8d. in 1864, being an increase of 9,842l. 3s. 5d.

Legal and Criminal Statistics.

The legal and criminal statistics of the Colony are shown in a series of ten tables. They include the criminal and the civil cases brought before the Supreme Court and the Resident Magistrates' Courts respectively, distinguishing in the latter class, the cases in which Europeans, or Maories, or both were concerned. A comparative summary shows the number of convictions in the Resident Magistrates' Courts for each of the most frequent offences, in each year from 1853 to 1865 inclusive. In the last table of this series will be found the numbers committed to gaol during 1865, specifying the sexes, the causes of imprisonment, the native countries, the classes (as to social position), and the degree of education of the prisoners. The total number committed was 3,805 (viz., 3,341 males and 464 females), being 339 committals less than in 1864, when the total was 4,144.

Savings Banks.

The table relating to savings banks shows with regard to each of these institutions—the date of its establishment, the number of depositors (distinguishing Europeans and

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Maories), the amounts to the credit of such depositors on the 31st December 1865, and the amounts deposited and withdrawn during the year. The total number of persons having deposits in these banks in December 1865 was 4,304, against 4,669 in 1864;—The total amount to the credit of such depositors was, in December 1865, 87,400*l*. 2s. 3d., against 94,248*l*. 6s. 8d. in December 1864, and 44,117*l*. 3s. 3d. in December 1863.

Public Schools.

Although the information on the all-important subject of education embodied in the table is not as full and complete in some particulars as would be desirable (and as I trust will be found attainable in future years), yet it presents, on the whole, a better compendious view of the public schools in the Colony than it was in my power to give on previous occasions. According to the returns from which it was compiled, there was in New Zealand in December 1855 a total of 237 public schools (viz., 23 boys', 16 girls', and 198 mixed). The total number of teachers (excepting Marlborough, the return from which Province is defective in this particular) was 285 (viz., 200 male and 85 female teachers). The total (highest) number of pupils on the books in the December quarter was 11,859. The proportions of these totals in the several Provinces will be found detailed in the table (No. LXI.), which also shows, so far as the returns obtained from the respective Provincial Governments contain the information, the average daily attendance, the ages of the pupils, and the branches of education taught.

Meteorology.

The meteorological tables (which have been supplied from the office of Dr. Knight, Director of Meteorological Stations in the Colony), are more extended and elaborate than in previous years, showing an advance upon the information for 1864 as marked and gratifying as was that for 1864 in comparison with 1863. The series includes nine tables, the first of which gives a comparative view of the climate at the meteorological stations in New Zealand (with the exception of Napier, from which the requisite returns were not received); and the following eight embody the results of observations at Mongonui, Auckland, Taranaki, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Southland.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN B. BENNETT,
Registrar-General.

EASTERN COLONIES.

Ceylon.
No. 23.

CEYLON.

No. 23.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir H. G. R. Robinson to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

(No. 232.) My Lord, Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon, October 15, 1866.

In forwarding the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1865, I have the honour to submit the following report upon its contents.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue of 1865 exceeded that of 1864 by 110,764l. 3s. 7d., being respectively 978l,492l. 6s. 9d. and 867,728l. 3s. 2d. The following are the principal items of increase:

—Arrears of revenue, 10,622l. 17s. 7d., owing to recoveries made in 1865 of large balances which were outstanding at the end of 1864 of the toll and other rents of that year. Imports, 14,321l. 7s. 11d., arising from a larger importation of grain in 1865, and exports 9,329l. 18s. 11d., owing to a larger exportation of coffee. Under the head of Land Revenue there is an increase of 41,199l. 2s. 7d. in the item of paddy, the result of the successful cultivation of that article in the western, north-western, and southern Provinces, and the levying of a higher rate fixed for the collection of the commutation tax on grain in the Central Province. The higher offers obtained for the toll rents and the arrack rents caused an increase of 4,452l. 3s. 1d. under the former, and of 15,860l. 12s. 10d. under the latter head. Under the head of stamps, the increase on judicial and blank stamps was 6,105l. 1s. 3d., and on postage stamps 672l. 10s. The actual increase in the item of salt under the head of Sale of Government property was 9,862l., but owing to a decrease in the sale of salt for consumption in the released districts, to the extent of 6,800l., the amount was reduced to 3,062l. Under this head there is also an increase of 2,058l. 19s. 10d. from the sale of commissariat stores, &c., and of 3,743l. 3s. 3d. from the sale of timber, the latter being the result of the introduction of a new scale of duties at higher rates in the Eastern Province.

3. The total ordinary expenditure of the year amounted to 838,193l. 9s. 7d. The excess of revenue over the expenditure was therefore 140,298l. 17s. 2d. In addition to the above sum of 838,193l. 9s. 7d., there was expended a further sum of 28,161l. 16s. 11d. for civil and military works and roads, streets, and bridges, which was charged to balances

of former years.

4. As compared with the expenditure of the preceding year, that of 1865 shows a decrease of 5,098l. 4s., viz., Establishments, 3,990l. 4s. 5d., and Services, exclusive of Establishments, 1,107l. 19s. 8d. Under the head of Establishments the difference in the expenditure of the two years was chiefly owing to the circumstance of the salaries of December 1864 having been paid in that month, instead of at the commencement of the ensuing month, so that the salaries of 13 months were brought to account in 1864, as explained in my Despatch No. 134 of the 16th September 1865. Under the head of Police and Gaols there was an increase of 2,853l. 10s., caused by the heavy expenses incurred on account of provisions and other necessaries for prisoners. There was a decrease of 14,535l. 6s. 5d. under the head of Works and Buildings, and of 20,062l. 2s. 3d. under the head of Roads, Streets, and Bridges; but it must be remembered that in addition to the sums expended under these heads from the ordinary revenue, there was a further expenditure, as already stated, of 28,161l. 16s. 11d. on estimates sanctioned in preceding years, and charged to balances. There was a larger expenditure in the purchase of stores, &c. in 1865, causing an increase under the head of Colonial Commissariat of 12,030l. 9s. 10d. In the contribution to the Military Expenditure there is an increase of 46,000l., the amount having been raised from 54,000l. to 100,000l., whilst there is a decrease of 34,024l. 7s. 6d. under the head of Colonial Pay and Allowances, the pay and allowances of military officers being no longer paid by the Government but from the contribution to the military chest.

Assets and Liabilities.

5. From the return furnished by the Auditor-General of Assets and Liabilities, it will be seen that the total amount of assets on the 1st January 1866 was 543,514l. 4s. 2d., the

CEYLON.

cash balances in the treasury and the different cutcherries amounting to 432,272l. 17s. 6d In the assets is included a sum of 89,505l. 16s. 4d. on account of revenue debts outstanding, of which 32,258l. is considered irrecoverable, and 3,648l. is awaiting the decision of courts of law. The amount of liabilities on the 1st January 1866 was 180,440l. 7s., and the apparent balance in favour of the Government was therefore 363,073l. 17s. 2d. This sum is, however, liable to a further charge of 61,888l. on account of works and services chargeable on balances, which reduces the actual excess of assets over liabilities at the commencement of the present year to 301,185l. 17s. 2d. This amount does not correspond with that given in the statement forwarded with my Despatch No. 128, of the 22nd June last, in which the net available cash balance on the 1st January 1866 was stated to be 219,697l., because, as explained in that Despatch this latter amount was arrived at by simply deducting from the cash in hand the total liabilities of the Colony, viz., 231,901l., all assets other than cash being ignored. The Blue Book statement includes further as liabilities a sum of 9111, balance of government notes in the hands of the public, which it is not likely will ever be presented for payment, and a sum of 9,521l., balance unexpended under old Surplus Funds Ordinances, which it is not necessary to retain any longer as a liability, as the works under those ordinances have been completed. Deducting these two sums, the amount of liability in the Blue Book return will be reduced to 231,896l., which corresponds with the amount given in the statement transmitted with my Despatch of the 22nd June.

6. The Blue Book statement does not include further liabilities to the extent of 698,169l. incurred on account of Ceylon Government debentures sold in England for railway purposes, and interest due thereon, to meet which special funds have been provided by the Ordinance No. 7 of 1864.

Military Expenditure.

7. The total expense incurred in Ceylon on account of the military defence of the Colony in 1865 was 215,732l. 3s. 3d., being in excess of the expenditure of the preceding year by 20,039l. The following are the proportions in which the expenditure was borne by the mother country and the Colony:—

CERTAIN THAT			*	£	s.	d.
Great Britain			-	79,133		
Ceylon -	77		-	136,598	14	4
		Total		215,732	3	3

Imports and Exports.

8. The value of goods imported in 1865 was 3,298,511*l*. 17s. 10d., showing a decrease of 457,399*l*. 9s. 1d., as compared with that of 1864, which amounted to 3,755,911*l*. 6s. 11d. In the exports there was an increase of 407,507*l*., the value for the two years having been,—1864, 2,661,647*l*. 4s. 6d.; 1865, 3,069,155*l*. 1s. 5d.

9. Adding the amount of specie imported and exported, which is not included in the above figures, the total value of the imports and exports of 1865, as compared with those of the preceding year, stands thus:—

		Imp	orts.			
1864	100			£5,526,964	3	4
1865	- 1	15 - 45		5,022,179	4	9
		Exp	orts.			
1864	V			£3,111,268	15	6
1865				3,565,157		5

10. The total value of goods and specie imported and retained in the Colony during 1865 amounted to 3,697,094l.

11. The total value of goods exported in 1865, exclusive of imports exported, amounted to 2,240,073l.
12. In the imports the principal items of decrease are:—

,	imports the prin	ncipal it	ems o	f decrea	se are:		
	Arms and amn	nunition	from	Great 1	Britain	-	£ 16,784
	Cotton goods				. 6	-	467,588
	Do. twist	-	•		- (-	65,691
	Hardware and	cutlery	-			-	45,671
	Other metals	•		•	-	*	31,945
	Spirits -		-	•	-	-	18,968

CEYLON.

13. The decrease is mainly attributable to the state of trade and manufacture in

14. On guano imported from Peru, there was a decrease in the value to the amount of 33,300l.

15. There was an increase on rice imported from British India, to the amount of

16. On specie imported from Mauritius, Australia, and Suez, there was a decrease to the amount of 356,056l. This is nearly balanced by an increase in specie imported from

British India to the amount of 308,685l.

17. In the exports the increase is attributable mainly to the larger quantity of coffee exported in 1865, which was 927,440 cwts., whilst in 1864 it was only 671,164 cwts. The largest export of coffee yet made during one year, and the largest amount of export duties collected, was in 1865. The trade in cocoa-nut oil considerably decreased in 1865. There was a falling off of nearly one half the quantity and value compared with 1864, the quantities being:-

2,249,402 gallons. 1864 1,176,784 1865

The exportation of plumbago shows also a decrease of 43,885 cwts. in 1865. In cinnamon there was an increase of 74,298 lbs.; the quantity exported in 1864 being 776,675 lbs.; and in 1865, 850,973 lbs.

18. The revenue derived from imports and exports in 1865 was 291,091l. 6s. 2d.,

showing an increase of 19,832l. 6s. 5d., as compared with that of the preceding year, which amounted to 271,258l. 19s. 9d. £9,964 11 9 9,867 14 8 Exports The apparent anomaly of an increase in the import duties in 1865 of nearly 10,000l., whilst the value of goods imported was less than in the preceding year by more than half a

million, may be accounted for by the high prices and the unsettled state of trade in the home markets, coupled with the extraordinary large stock of goods in bond in January 1865. This checked importation during the year, but the previous supplies in bond were drawn upon, and by the end of the year this large reserve was almost exhausted. Now, however, the import trade has again revived, and the stocks on hand that were brought so low are being fully replaced.

19. I append to this Despatch a return of exports of coffee, cinnamon, cocoa-nut oil, and coir for the last ten years*; return of the total value of imports and exports (including specie and bullion), in the years 1863, 1864, and 1865; and a statement of the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in the same years.

Public Works.

20. In addition to the return of public works included among the Blue Book returns, I forward the following documents required by Her Majesty's Government :-*Estimated expenditure out of Surplus Funds for 1866.

*Analytical statement of progress of Public Works borne on the budget of 1866.

*Progress of expenditure on Surplus Fund Ordinances from 1857 to 1865, and the estimated expenditure for 1866.

Profit and loss on works undertaken as remunerative from ditto to ditto ditto.

21. I enclose also a copy of a report* by the Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads on the state of the Public Works Department, and a report on the progress and expenditure on roads and receipts from tolls for the year 1865.

22. From the abstract attached to the Blue Book return furnished by the Civil Engineer, it will be seen that the total expenditure on public works during the past year

amounted to 230,710l. 5s. 5½d., viz.:-

£180,694 0 7\frac{3}{4} Government money Commutation money paid in assessment for labour under the Road Ordinance and private contributions - $27,333 18 10\frac{1}{4}$ $22,682 \quad 5 \quad 11\frac{1}{2}$ Cost of establishment £230,710 $5\frac{1}{2}$

23. As compared with 1864, the expenditure of 1865 shows an excess of 10,690l., that for 1864 being only 220,019l. This result does not correspond with the statement made in the fourth paragraph of this Despatch, in which I pointed out that the return of expenditure furnished by the Auditor General showed that there was a decrease in the expenditure on public works in 1865 as compared with that of 1864. The discrepancy may be explained by the fact that the Auditor General's return is limited only

1,735 6 111

to the ordinary expenditure of the year; whilst the Civil Engineer's statement includes in addition Road Ordinance funds and private contributions, as also the expenditure on works charged to balances of former years; this latter charge appearing for the first time

in the Civil Engineer's accounts of last year.

24. The amount expended on opening new roads was 24,596l. 14s. 0\frac{3}{4}d., viz., 16,489l. 18s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. Government money, and 8,106l. 15s. $2\frac{1}{4}d$. Road Ordinance funds and private contributions. The following are some of the principal roads in course of construction last year:-

Western Prominge

VV 630611	t 1100thee.		
Road from Warakapolle to the railway From Marandahn to the sea-shore road From Government factory to the raily	d, Korteboon		$\begin{array}{c} 6 \\ 6\frac{1}{4} \\ 4 \end{array}$
Centra	l Province.		
A gravel carriage road to Haldemulle From Dimbool Gap to Nan Oya:— Government money	- £1.594 1 51	5,184 6 1	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Private contribution Extension of the Doltelle road:—	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	4,203 11	$6\frac{3}{4}$
	- £ 550 0 0 - 1,000 0 0	1550 0	0

25. The amount expended on the repair and upkeep of roads, streets, and canals was 140,889*l.* 6s. $6\frac{5}{4}d$., viz., Government money, 121,856*l.* 16s. $6\frac{1}{4}d$.; Road Ordinance funds, 19,032*l.* 10s. $0\frac{1}{2}d$. The cost of the repair of the road from Colombo to Galle, Matura, Tangalle, and Hambantotte was 11,541l. 10s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$.; the receipts from tolls being 8,329l. The expenditure on the road from Colombo to Kandy was 26,800l. 16s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$.; the receipts from tolls on this road amounted to 32,165l.

26. The sum expended for new bridges was 3,077l. 5s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$.

From Kaloobokke to Cabragalle:-

Private contributions

I

27. The following are some of the principal bridges in course of construction last

Iron lattice bridge over the Rattote Oya - £407 1 Iron lattice bridge over Dambool Oya - 1,295 16 3

28. The expenditure incurred on account of the repair of bridges amounted to 3,734l. 4s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$., viz.:-

Government money - £3,363 4 8 Private contributions $100 \ 19 \ 5\frac{1}{2}$

29. The expenditure on new buildings was 1,692l. 12s. 9d.

30. The following were some of the most important of the buildings in progress last year :-

Western Province.

A church at Kaigalle -- £200 A gaol at Caltura 225

Southern Province.

A new gaol at Galle -

31. The amount expended on the repair of existing buildings was 7,899l. 13s. 5\(\frac{1}{4}d\), and on drainage, construction of ferry boats, and general service, 1,785l. 19s. 10d.

32. On miscellaneous services, including the purchase of tools, working of the factory, the purchase of draught cattle, subsistence of elephants, the importation of pioneers, and labourers from the continent of India, there was an expenditure of 24,528l. 8s. 8\frac{1}{4}d.

Government Houses at Colombo, Galle, and Kandy.

33. The report* of the Civil Engineer on the state of the Queen's houses at Colombo * Not printed. and Galle, and the Pavilion at Kandy shows that these houses are in fair order. The Queen's houses at Colombo and Galle require certain repairs, which will be effected in

CEYLON. Not printed.

due course. I enclose also the report* of the Deputy Commissary General on the condition of the furniture in these houses.

Surveying Department.

34. This department has sustained a loss by the death last year of its late head, Colonel Sim, who devoted all his energies and abilities to carrying out successfully the various surveying operations of the Colony. The report* which I now enclose is furnished by Mr. Noad, who was nominated to act temporarily as Surveyor General, pending the appointment of Captain Fyers, the present head of the department.

35. The report shows that the total extent of Crown lands sold last year was properly as the present head of the department. * Not printed.

27,902 acres, which realized 58,037l. In 1864 the extent of Crown land sold was

larger, viz., 30,294 acres, and the amount realized was 65,7161.

36. The following are the results of the sales of Crown lands in the different Provinces as compared with the sales in the preceding year: --

		18	364.	1865.				
		Quantity sold.	Amount realized.	Quantity sold.	Amount realized.			
		Acres.	£	Acres.	£			
Western Province		13,733	29,939	8,384	15,636			
Central Do.	-	13,469	30,138	11,913	19,158			
Southern Do.	-	926	3,006	5,249	19,718			
Eastern Do.	-	1,007	1,460	1,532	1,966			
N. Western Do.	-	986	1,496	779	1,506			
Northern Do.	-	173	277	45	53			

37. In the Central Province the greater portion of the lands purchased are intended as additions to the coffee estates in the several districts, the lots applied for by the

natives being generally small in extent.

38. In the Southern Province too, where there has been a large increase in the sales, a considerable portion is required for coffee cultivation in the district of Morowa Corle; but the increase in this Province is chiefly to be attributed to the equitable adjustment of the titles of parties holding property under tenure of temporary occupancy from the Crown in the Galle Bazaar.

39. The Surveyor General points out that the distinctive feature in the surveying operations of the Western Province consists in the fact that applications for lands are of moderate acreage, and almost universally from natives, and generally for purposes of

cocoa or paddy cultivation.

40. In addition to the Crown lands sold, 7,065 acres of temple lands were surveyed, and 6,183 acres were alienated as encroachments sold or given at a valuation, free grants or settlements for certificates against the Crown, and the amount realized therefrom

41. The total extent of land sold and otherwise disposed of in the several Provinces during the year was 41,150 acres, and the total receipts, including survey fees (7,1711.)

amounted to 68,276l.

42. In order to expedite the survey of temple lands, which it is necessary should be completed without delay, a contract has been entered into with a private surveyor for the execution of this work, on the understanding that it shall be completed within two years, at an average rate of 75,000 acres per annum, and at a cost of 3s. per acre, and the work is now in progress.

43. In consequence of the representations of some of the Government agents that there were numerous applications for the purchase of Crown land, which it was not possible to meet owing to the inability of the Surveyor General's department to have the lands surveyed, I sanctioned an addition of 13 surveyors to the staff of the department, on the understanding that they are to be discontinued as soon as the special object for which they are required shall have been attained.

Electric Telegraph.

44. I enclose the report* of the Acting Superintendent of Telegraphs on the working of * Not printed. the lines during 1865.

45. The additional line between Galle and Colombo, which was completed in 1864, was opened only on May last. As it is only an alternative line, and its construction has not entailed the opening of any fresh offices, it has not contributed directly to the revenue.

CEYLON.

46. The old line between Galle and Colombo, owing to the action of the saline atmosphere on the wire, is not in a very satisfactory state; and there have been in consequence frequent interruptions of communication.

47. The line from Colombo to Kandy too has not worked well during the year. This line will be replaced by one which is now in course of erection along the railway

embankment.

48. The line from Kandy to Dambul has been entirely re-constructed, with the view to the erection on the same supports of the line to connect Trincomalie and Kandy; and it has worked very well since its re-construction.

49. The unsatisfactory state of this department during the year must be ascribed chiefly to the absence from illness, and the frequent changes of the officer at its head, and to the insufficiency of the staff; arrangements are now in progress for placing the

department on a more efficient footing.

50. The total collections on service and private messages during the year amounted to 16,519l. 3s. 7d. Deducting from this a sum of 116l. 19s. 7d. due to the Indian Government on account of messages received from India, and 8,302l. 5s. 2d. due to the Indo-European line, the amount to the credit of Ceylon is 8,099l. 18s. 9d., which shows an increase in the profits of the department on the transactions of the year, as compared with 1864, of 504l. 4s., the receipts in 1864 having been 7,595l. 14s. 9d. The expenditure of the department in 1865, including charges for the repair of the lines, amounted to 5,694l. 18s. 11d., showing an increase of 390l. 2s. over the expenditure of 1864, which was 5,304l. 16s. 11d.

51. The enclosed reports* from the Director-General of the Ceylon Railway, for the * Not printed. half years ending 30th June and 31st December 1865, show that the progress of the

works during the past year was satisfactory.

52. The line was opened for the conveyance of passengers between Colombo and Ambepusse, a distance of nearly 35 miles, on the 2nd October last, and for goods traffic from the commencement of the present year; and it is hoped that it will be shortly ready for traffic, as far as Polgahawella, which is about 45 miles from Colombo.

53. The receipts from the traffic are not at present sufficient to cover the working expenses; but at times they exceeded the expenditure. On the whole the traffic on the railway may be considered satisfactory, and it is hoped that it will be large and remunerative when the railway is opened throughout.

54. The total amount of the different works executed from the commencement to the

end of December 1865 is as follows:-

Earthwork completed amounts to nearly three-fourths.

Tunnels, three-fourths.

Bridges, very nearly three-fourths.

Culverts, nearly all.

Retaining walls, more than two-fifths.

Permanent way and materials, more than three-fifths. Sundry work and contingencies, not quite three-fourths.

55. The amount expended on the works last year was 187,152l., viz. 168,819l. in Ceylon, and 18,333l. for materials from England; the average monthly expenditure being between 15,000l. and 16,000l.

56. The total value of works under the contract is - £873,039
Value of work done to the 31st December 1865 - 612,980

Remaining - - £260,059

So that an amount of work equivalent to an average monthly expenditure of 20,000l. is required to complete the works within the time specified in the contract.

Legislation.

57. There were 29 ordinances enacted in the year 1865, of which Nos. 1 and 2, passed at the commencement of the year, formed a portion of the legislation of 1864. No. 1 provided for the contingent charges of the year 1865; and No. 2, entitled "An Ordinance "to amend the Land Registration Ordinance No. 8 of 1863," introduced certain modifications suggested by the Secretary of State, as well as a few other amendments, the neces-

sity for which had been suggested by the practical working of the measure. Further amendments in this latter Ordinance having again been suggested by the Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 77, of the 7th April last year, the Ordinance No. 3 of 1865 was introduced repealing No. 2, and embodying these amendments and the other provisions of the repealed measure.

58. Ordinance No. 4 of 1865 provides for the better regulation of the Loan Board. This institution was originally established for the purpose of laying out in safe investment monies which were paid in to the old Supreme Court by suitors, and which gradually formed into a fund, as also other monies which belonged to Intestate Estates and the Orphan Chamber of the Dutch Government. In 1833, under the charter of justice granted to this Island, the Supreme Court ceased to possess original civil jurisdiction, and was invested only with appellate powers, so that the supervision it exercised over the Loan Board became but nominal, and the judges from time to time objected to affix their signatures to the accounts and documents of the board, the accuracy of which they did not personally know, and had no adequate means of ascertaining. The accounts presented besides many small items unclaimed for a series of years, and not likely ever to be claimed. This Ordnance re-modelled the constitution of the board, which now consists of commissioners appointed by the Governor, who are the trustees of the funds belonging to it, and authorized the appropriation by Government for purposes connected with the administration of justice of all monies unclaimed for more than one-third of a century and of monies unclaimed for more than ten years but less than the third part of a century; the general revenue being in the latter case liable for the payment of such claims, with the interest due on them, if they were established to the satisfaction of a competent court of justice. In pursuance of this measure was enacted the Ordinance No. 21 of 1865, which provided for the appropriation of a portion of these unclaimed balances, viz., 15,000*l*. for the purposes specified; 20,627*l*. still remain to be appropriated in like manner.

59. Ordinance No. 5 of 1865, relating to the fraudulent marking of merchandise, was enacted in conformity with the instructions of the Secretary of State. Its provisions are substantially the same as those of the Imperial Act 25 and 26 Vict. cap. 88, with the exception of certain modifications of a local character.

60. Ordnance No. 6 lays down the duties of masters' attendant, and provides for the better preservation of the ports of the Island, and for the better regulation of shipping

therein.

61. Ordinance No. 7 makes the age of 21 years the legal age of majority in this Colony. Under the Dutch law, 25 is the legal age, whilst the Mahomedans and Hindoos have each their respective terms. It was deemed convenient to establish an age applicable to all.

62. Ordinance No. 8 of 1865, amending the Ordinance No. 13 of 1863, entitled "An "Ordinance to amend in certain respects the law of marriages, and to provide for the "due registration thereof," was introduced in consequence of certain suggestions made by the Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 236, of the 20th December 1864.

63. Ordinance No. 9 makes certain amendments in the Stamp Ordinance of 1861.
64. Ordinance No. 10 relating to the Ceylon railway repeals the Ordinance of 1864, providing regulations for the management of the railway. The main provisions of the repealed Ordinance are embodied in this Ordinance, with certain modifications suggested by the Director General, and Ordinance No. 19 provides for the appropriation of 18,7581. 12s. 4d., received from the late Ceylon Railway Company to certain railway

65. Ordinance No. 11 consolidates and amends the law relating to servants, labourers, and journeyman artificers under contracts for hire and service; a measure the necessity for which had been much felt, and was strongly urged on the Government by the Planters'

Association.

66. No. 12 established tolls on the road leading from Polwatte to Ackuressa.

67. Ordinance No. 13 amends the Branch Roads Grants-in-aid Ordinances of 1857 and 1858. These latter ordinances made provision for the construction of branch roads by grants-in-aid from Government equal to a moiety of the estimated cost of construction, the other moiety being contributed by the proprietors of the estates in the districts interested in the construction of such roads. No. 13 provides for like contributions and assessment for the completion of the road in the event of the original estimates proving insufficient, as also for their upkeep and repair.

68. Ordinance No. 14 relates to the registration and licensing of carts, boats, and coaches used for the conveyance of goods and passengers, and declares the rights and

liabilities of the owners thereof. It was introduced in consequence of representations made by the Planters' Association and others of the loss and inconvenience to the public arising from the irregularity in the delivery of goods entrusted to cart-men.

69. No. 15 makes provision for the supplementary contingent charges of the year 1865. 70. No. 16 provides for the establishment and regulation of a police force in the Island. A committee was appointed in 1864 to inquire into the state of the police force, and it was shown by their report that the department was in a very inefficent state, and that it was necessary to adopt a new system of management to remedy the defects pointed out. This Ordinance was introduced to effect this object. It consolidates all the former laws on the subject, and makes certain amendments with a view

to their improvement.

71. Ordinance No. 17 establishes municipal councils in Colombo and Kandy, the principal towns in the Island, and gives power to the Government, on the application of a reasonable number of the inhabitants of any town, or without such application, if to the Government it appeared expedient to do so, to create municipalities in any An application for the creation of a municipality in Galle has been received from the inhabitants of that town, and it has been decided to introduce the measure there from the commencement of next year. In Colombo and Kandy the institution appears to be working satisfactorily.

72. Ordinance No. 18 of 1865 amends in certain respects the administration of justice, and No. 28 gives effect to certain rules relating to proceedings of the Supreme Court in

its criminal jurisdiction.

73. No. 20 provides against the removal of stones and other substances from certain parts of the sea shore; a measure which it was necessary to enact for the protection of public roads, which were much injured by a practice prevailing in some parts of the Island, and especially in the Southern Province, of removing coral and other substances from the sea shore in the neighbourhood of high roads.

74. No. 22 was passed with a view to establish the validity of a lease of a portion

of the parsonage land at Nuwara Eliya.

75. Ordnance No. 23 provides for the apprehension of pioneer deserters, and for the better protection of property entrusted to them. It was brought forward in consequence of representations made by the Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads of the serious loss to which the Government was subjected, owing to the frequent desertions of the pioneers on his establishment. But it was disallowed by Her Majesty's Government, owing to the provision by which corporal punishment was made part of the sentence of an offending pioneer. Under instructions received from the Secretary of State a new Bill will be introduced this year without this provision.

76. No. 24 authorizes the shooting of cattle trespassing on the line of railway. The necessity for this measure was strongly urged by the Director General of the railway, who represented the impossibility of preventing such trespass without resorting to the

measures anthorized by this Ordinance.

77. No. 25 provides for the contingent charges of the year 1866.

78. No. 26 relates to the establishment of a Wharf and Warehouse Company. As the great increase in the trade of Colombo rendered it difficult for the customs officers to carry on the duties of wharfingers and warehousemen, which had heretofore been performed by them, it was considered desirable to transfer these duties to a private company, with which object this Ordinance was enacted.

79. No. 27 amends and consolidates the laws relating to the post office, and to the rates of postage. The amendment was necessary, in order to carry out certain instructions received from the Secretary of State regarding the transmission by post of patterns and samples of merchandise, and the compulsory registration of letters containing coin; and advantage was taken of the occasion to consolidate the various enactments bearing on the subject.

80. No. 29 amends the Ordinance No. 4 of 1840, which imposed a tax on paddy and dry grain. It was enacted with a view to the removal of doubts as to the liability of

certain articles of produce to taxation under the Ordinance of 1840.

Public Health.

81. The enclosed report from the Principal Civil Medical Officer notices the principal diseases that prevailed in Ceylon in 1865. The latter half of this year, Dr. Charsley states, was characterized by its general unhealthiness and prevalence of fevers and bowel complaints.

82. Cholera, which visits this Colony irregularly and apparently independently of any special known atmospheric influence, prevailed almost throughout the year, but excepting

in Trincomalie during January and February, the disease could scarcely be said to be epidemic. The number of cases reported in 1865 was 2,727, and the number of deaths In 1864 the number of cases was 3,578, and of deaths 2,157.

83. Small-pox hardly existed during the year, 373 being the total number throughout the Island. Of these 55 died, 38 of whom pore no previous marks of vaccination, 12 unsatisfactory marks, and only five death occurred with satisfactory marks.

number of cases in 1864 was 1,207, and the number of deaths 174.

84. The vaccination during the year 1865 was not quite so satisfactory as during the previous year. The returns show 68,289 vaccinated, as against 74,811 in 1864, giving a decrease of 6,522. If, however, the successful vaccinations are taken, the decrease is less, being 49,838 in 1865, against 53,851 in 1864, a difference of only 4,013. The Vaccination Ordinance has been in active operation in certain portions of the Island, viz., Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Gampolla, and Putlam.

85. The report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer contains also full information with

reference to the state of the several gaols and hospitals in the Island.

Education.

86. I enclose a copy of the twenty-second report of the School Commission for the period from the 1st July 1864 to the 30th June 1865, which gives a full account of

the Government schools up to the middle of last year.

87. The returns for 1865 show that there were 111 Government schools in 1865, the number in 1864 being 110, and there was an increase of 59 in the number of pupils in those schools, with an increase of 79 in the average daily attendance, the number of pupils being 5,232 in 1864, and 5,291 in 1865.

88. The number of aided schools in 1865 was the same as in the previous year, viz., 17; but there was an increase of 51 in the number of pupils in the list, with an

increase of 49 in the average daily attendance.

89. The expenditure by the Government on account of education in 1865 amounted to 14,673l. 13s., showing a decrease of 657l. 19s. $2\frac{3}{4}d$. as compared with that of 1864, which amounted to 15,331l. 12s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$.

90. The receipts in the shape of fees also show a decrease, as compared with the receipts in 1864, of 90l. 9s. 1d. The fees in 1865 amounted to 1,979l. 3s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$., whilst

the amount in 1864 was 2,069l. 12s. 111d.

91. The returns from the different missionary bodies show a decrease, both in the number of schools supported by them, and in the number of pupils attending them. The following is an abstract of these schools:-

			No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Society for the Propagation of	the Gospe	el -	69	1,782
Church Missionary Society	-		84	2,911
Wesleyan Missionary Society			106	3,694
Presbyterians			4	147
Baptist Missionary Society			22	609
American Missionary Society			55	1,763
Roman Catholic Society -			79	3,840
Total -			419	14,746

92. The numbers in 1864 were 511 schools and 17,434 pupils.
93. There was a decrease in the number of private schools, which in 1865 was 252, whilst the number in 1864 was 268; but the attendance in those schools was larger

last year, viz., 5,976, whilst in 1864 the number was 5,677.

94. Prefixed to the Blue Book returns will be found a table, giving a statistical view of the progress of this Colony for the years 1821 to 1865 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1864 and 1865, prepared in the form suggested by the International Statistical Congress at the meeting held in London in 1860.

I have, &c. HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON. (Signed)

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &cc. &c.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

Enclosure 1 in No. 23.

DECENNIAL RETURN of EXPORTS of Coffee, Cinnamon, Cocoa-nut Oil, and Coir, the Produce of the Colony.

CEYLON.

91

		COFFEE.		C	INNAMO	N.	Co	COA-NUT O	IL.		COIR.		Total Amoun
Years.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export duty received.	Customs Revenue from the foregoing Exports.
	cwts.	£	£	lbs.	£	£	gallons.	£	£	ewts.	£	£	£
1856 - •		981,723	-	877,547	45,370	-	1,046,326	101,591	-	29.564	19,028	-	-
1857	002,200	1,496,646		887,959	52,574	_	1,679,258	212,184		42,256	29,617	-	-
1858		1,337,122	27,226	750,744	37,537	751	777,162	77,716	1,949	40,420	32,419	511	30,487
1859 - •	000,000	1,467,497	29,490	879,361	43,972	880	1,118,638	111,864	2,985	38,086	25,945	447	33,802
1860 - •		1,574,033	31,007	675,156	33,758	675	1,549,089	154,909	3,890	36,616	24,864	458	36,030
1861	648,026	1,656,733	32,402	845,218	42,261	845	1,040,428	104,043	2,613	43,168	31,883	540	36,400
1862		1,545,284	30,259	875,475	43,774	876	1,429,531	142,953	3,591	46,595	. 37,648	583	35,309
1863 - •	828,587	2,126,222	41,429	734,038	36,702	734	1,878,585	187,858	4,718	51,785	39,103	647	47,528
1864 - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	671,164 927,440	1,744,793 2,343,532	33,559 46,373	776,675 850,973	38,833 42,549	775 852	2,249,402 1,176,784	224,948 120,678	5,649 2,955	36,313 41,378	27,386 31,637	454 516	40,437 50,696
Total -	6,477,898	16,273,585	271,745	8,153,146	417,330	6,388	13,945,203	1,438,744	28,350	406,181	299,530	4,156	310,639

Customs, Colombo, April 24, 1866.

(Signed)

J. B. Stephen, Principal Collector.

Enclosure 2 in No. 23.

TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS (including Specie and Bullion) from and to each Country in each of the Years 1863, 1864, and 1865.

Countries.			Impo	rts.				Ti.	1			Exports.			
Countries.	1863.		186	4.		1865			186	3.		1864.		1865	
	£ s.	d.	£	s,	d.	£	8.	d.	£	s.	d.	£ s.	d.	£ s	3.
United Kingdon -	1,011,094 17	7	1,651,587	1	1	904,255	3	10	2,407,578	8	7	2,015,326 3	3	2,420,056	5 1
British possessions in India.	3,505,139 19	9	2,821,092	14	1	3,486,106 1	6	10	994,879	9	10	957,545 10	1	961,013	6
Mauritius	18,090 11	9	31,343	3	6	20,633 1	0	0	26,956	10	1	923 17	0	21,175 1	6
Aden	10 12	6	30	0	0	39 1	1	5	19	18	8	-		. 20	2
Hong Kong	10,677 9	7	8,710	19	4	6,064	0	7	2,533	12	9	194 7	0	3,708 1	0
Australia	552,785 11	2	629,843	13	5	330,841	8	8	19,176	7	7	52,060 9	6	37,048 1	7
Cape of Good Hope -	1,892 19	0	348	9	0	103 1	0	0	_			_		348	9
Gibraltar			-	-		-			15,666	3	0	5,124 18	1	14,649 1	2
New Zealand -	_		_	-					60	0	0	-		_	
St. Helena	_		-			5	0	0	16 00 2			-		_	
France	_		87	0	0	512 1	7	9	30,748	6	8	8,161 10	5	47,306	5 1
Suez	168,668 11	4	135,693	15	5	85,007	3	1	10,575	16	8	9,291 15	10	1,076 1	0
French possessions in India.	122,048 15	3	156,550	17	8	136,518	1	8	33,553	15	7	23,076 9	11	12,327	7
Maldive Islands -	32,978 5	8	41,880	12	0	31,129	1	6	7,417	14	8	6,740 13	10	6,078 1	2
United States of America.	9,518 17	0	8,273	0	0	12,803 1	6	1	22,345	5	2	28,481 8	7	40,347-	7
Dutch possessions in India.						-			1,924	3	6	5,341 12	0	_	
Buenos Ayres -			2,813	0	0	4	9	3	_					_	
Madagascar	_		_	-		347 1	7	10				_		_	
Portuguese posses- sions in India.	-		-			-			2	0	6	_		-	
Pernambuco -	_		_			_			13,796	13	1			_	
Macao	_		593	0	0	1,771 1	0	4				_			
Bolivia			4,800	0	0	6,035	5	11	-			_		-	
Peru	-		33,315	10	0				_			_		-	
Madeira	_		1	7 1	0				3 -			_		0	
	5,433,806 10	7	5,526,964	3	4	5,022,179	4	9	3,587,234	6	5	3,112,268 15	6	3,565,157	1

Customs, Colombo, April 25, 1866.

(Signed)

J. B. STEPHEN, Principal Collector.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

CEYLON.

Enclosure 3 in No. 23.

NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS entered inwards and cleared outwards from and to each Country, in each of the Years 1863, 1864, and 1865.

				Entered	Inwards.	- 403				Cleared	Outward	s.	
Countries.		18	363.	18	364.	18	365.	18	363.	1	864.	18	865.
	V	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.
United Kingdom -	-	116	62,742	105	50,500	97	57,898	139	62,930	128	59,339	128	64,944
India.	in !	2,804	330,233	2,636	322,923	2,845	378,726	2,850	347,134	2,852	372,356	2,926	391,318
Cape of Good Hope	-	18	6,100	5	1,658	11	4,691	-		-		1	303
Australia	-	42	28,032	43	24,411	34	17,573	19	10,871	25	10,928	21	12,058
Mauritius -	-	12	2,765	8	3,027	8	4,237	13	2,867	1	82	7	3,004
Hong Kong (China)	-	35	36,253	38	40,583	40	38,521	38	39,264	36	38,093	38	40,192
Aden	-	7	2,868	7	4,022	5	2,560	-	-	-	_	1	.270
New Zealand -	-	6	4,733	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	_	-	-
Montevideo -	-	1	275	-	_	-	-	-		-	_	-	_
Buenos Ayres -	-	-	_	1	502	-	_	-	_	_		-	-
Suez	-	35	42,873	37	45,548	38	48,796	37	44,749	37	46,660	37	44,84
Gibraltar -	-	_		_	_	_	-	-	-			1	28
Brazil	-	_	_		-	3	975	-	_	-	_	-	
Cape de Verde Islands	-			-		2	910	_			-	-	-
St. Helena -	-	-		-		1	445	-			-		
Madagascar -	-	_		-	_	1	500		_			-	-
France	-	1	298	-	_	_	_	4	1,462	1	514	3	1,20
Mozambique -	-	1	430		-	-	_	-	_			-	_
Belgium	-	1	520	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	_	-	-
	in	169	13,728	192	16,901	150	12,384	166	14,304	129	10,415	120	10,29
Arabia	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	2	769	2	481		_
Maldive Islands -	- 1	44	4,600	52	5,755	49	5,029	39	4,534	42	4,524	40	3,39
United States of Americ	a	1	953	5	3,394	3	3,062	2	1,021	2	721	1	42
Batavia, Dutch possession in India.		-	-	_	-	-	-	1	1,005	5	2,949	1	1,03
Macao, Portuguese po sessions in India.	s-	-	-	1	260	1	260	-	-	-	-	1	26
Bourbon - "	-	_	-	1	506	-	-	_	_	-	-	-	-
Madeira	-			1	1,027	_	-	-	_		_	-	
Bolivia	-	_		1	341	1	455	_	_		-		-
Johana in Africa	-	-		1	344	_	-	_	_		-	_	Come
Peru	-	-	-	3	1,631	-	-	-	_	-	_		_
Total	-	3,293	537,404	3,137	523,333	3,289	577,022	3,310	530,910	3,260	547,062	3,326	573,81

Custom House, Colombo, April 25, 1866.

(Signed)

J. B. STEPHEN, Principal Collector.

Enclosure 4 in No. 23. STATEMENT showing the Profit or Loss on Works undertaken as remunerative.

						Expenditure.	Receipts.	Profit.	Loss.
						£	£		£
Electric Telegraph, as	per accom	panying de	etailed staten	nent No.	1 -	69,071	42,424	-	26,647
Steamer "Pearl,"	"	,,	,,	"	2 -	82,820	38,163	-	44,657
Survey Department	,,	,,	,,	,,	3 -	205,431	57,293		148,138
Irrigation	"	,,	,,	,,	4 -	50,495	30,245	_	20,250
					£	407,817	168,125		239,692

Audit Office, Colombo, March 28, 1866.

(Signed)

R. CALLANDER, Auditor-General.

Enclosure 5 in No. 23.

Principal Civil Medical Officer's Office, Colombo, September 4, 1866. SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit my usual series of statistical returns connected with the Civil Medical Department for the year 1865, in continuation of those which have been drawn up since

Hospitals.

These returns show the exact number of cases which have been admitted and treated in all the civil hospitals of the Island maintained by Government, the nature of the diseases, and result of each

As I originally drew up these tables partly from a financial point of view, I have continued to attach to table Λ , the actual cost of each hospital, separating it under the different heads of diet, servants,

equipment, contingencies, and salary of medical officer, and the summary at the end of the table condenses the details of each province into one line, with a total at the bottom, showing the whole number treated, viz., 9,374, at a cost of 14,014l. 3s. 10 d., is at the rate of 1l. 9s. 10\frac{3}{4}d. per head, including every item of expenditure.

I have also attached a comparative table for the four years for which these statistics have been constructed, which shows that the number of cases treated was lowest in 1863, viz., 8,468, and highest

in 1864, viz., 9,896, presenting an average for the four years of 9,065, at an average cost of \$15 2 per head for diet alone, and 11. 7s. 4d. per head, including all items of expenditure.

As I returned to the Island only during the latter half of the year 1865, I am unable to give a detail of the variations of the public health during the whole period of the year, but I am able to state that the latter half was characterized by its general unhealthiness and prevalence of fevers and bowel complaints, the two scourges of the native constitution.

The cases of fevers, which among the native population chiefly assumes an intermittent type, form Diseases. as nearly as possible one-fourth of the total number treated, while the mortality has been about 3 per Fevers.

Diseases of the lungs, liver, and spleen are not very common causes of admission into hospital. The Lungs, liver, last is frequently a complication of fever, but seldom comes under treatment as a disease, "sui generis," and spleen. among natives.

The mortality of diseases of the lungs is high, being nearly 18 per cent., and of these the greater portion is consumption admitted into the large hospitals of Colombo and Kandy.

Next to fevers, diseases of the bowels, viz., diarrhea, acute and chronic dysentery, exclusive of Bowels. cholera, form the largest source of admission into the public hospitals, and the mortality is nearly 40 per cent. of the number treated. The victims of this form of disease are chiefly Malabars from the coast of India, and the Western and Central Provinces in which the largest Government civil hospitals are situated, show the greatest number. A large majority of cases are admitted in a hopeless condition, and it has been found necessary to provide special wards for their reception in consequence of the offensive nature of their complaint and their naturally uncleanly habits.

The most important head is venereal affections, the number of which form a fifteenth of the total Venereal number treated, and as is to be expected, they are met with chiefly in the large towns of Colombo and Kandy. The mortality is about 3 per cent. in hospital, but there is no doubt that hundreds of the native population either die early in life from its effects or are rendered helpless and unfit to support themselves and families by labour. Primary affections in females seldom enter the hospital, and makes seak relief only when the disease in a secondary form is hospital to the content of the secondary form is hospital. males seek relief only when the disease in a secondary form is beginning to appear upon their

bodies.

Simple abscesses and ulcers are frequently causes of admission, but their mortality is insignificant, Abscesses and and there are always in Colombo and Kandy a large number of wounds and injuries, the result ulcers. chiefly of machinery.

The total mortality throughout the year in the civil hospitals, exclusive of gaols, has been 1,353 out

of 9,374 treated, or 14.43 per cent.

The gaols bear a favourable comparison with the Government civil hospitals in their rate of Gaols, mortality, which may be attributed, first, to the regular, sufficient, and good diet of the prisoners, and secondly, to early treatment from the commencement of attack.

The total number of sick treated in all the gaol hospitals has been 2,837, and the deaths 99, or about

3.4 per cent.

The chief source of mortality has been diseases of the bowels, which form 2 per cent. of the total number of admissions and 6.6 per cent. of that particular class of disease.

The highest mortality with one exception was in the Wellicadde gaol of Colombo, where it amounted to exactly 10 per cent. of the number treated.

In the Galle gaol this mortality was rather exceeded, but of the total number of 23 deaths in that gaol, 15 were from epidemic cholera, which must be considered exceptional.

In the large gaol of Kandy the deaths were only 7 in 514 cases treated, or less than 6 per cent.

The mortality in proportion to the number treated has always been higher in the Wellicadde than in any of the other gaols in Ceylon.

In Kandy, where the building is ill constructed for a gaol, the ventilation imperfect in the highest degree, the gaol frequently much overcrowded, and its sanitary condition unsatisfactory and incapable of amendment from the nature of its construction, the health of the prisoners is generally good

and its mortality small, having been this year 7 in 541 treated, equal to 1.1 per cent.

In the Hultsdorp gaol the number of admissions into hospitals exceeds that of any other gaol, but in this gaol it is to be observed that as many as 132 out of a total of 577 admissions are from ulcers or

wounds and injuries.

This is to be explained by the class of prisoners confined in this gaol, all the short sentences from the police court, petty thieves in low condition, and mostly suffering from sores when first committed. The wounds and injuries, of which there are no less than 82, are generally trivial injuries received while cutting stones, and occasionally there are a few cases of burns from lime at the Government limekiln. The total mortality has been 15 in 595 treated, or 2.5 per cent.

The insalubrity of the Wellecadde gaol is chiefly owing to local causes, it being erected on the summit of a hill with large tracts of paddy lands on two sides of it. The miasm arising from decomposing vegetation, rises up the hill during the north-east monsoon, and eventually settles within the gaol walls, so that the prisoners sleep in a malarious atmosphere during at least six months of the year, and it is during these six months, viz., from December to May, that the greatest amount of sickness prevails, and consequent mortality. The class of prisoners committed to this gaol are men sentenced to long imprisonment and subject to mental depression. Many of them are aged, and either succumb in the early part of their confinement to attacks of the bowels or linger on for a year or two to sink before their whole sentence has expired.

The pioneer hospitals are temporary buildings erected on the spot, where divisions of pioneer Pioneer hos-

labourers are located, and deserted as the divisions are moved.

CEYLON.

pitals.

CEYLON.

Cholera.

They are attended by a class of native medical men who have for the most part received their education under Dr. Green of Battacotta, and are well grounded in the treatment of the ordinary complaints to which natives are liable. Being Tamils themselves they gain the confidence of the pioneers, who speak the same language, and the system is found to work satisfactorily. These small field hospitals are of scarcely sufficient importance to require a higher class of medical officers, but where a pioneer hospital becomes stationary, as at Kaduganawa, and is resorted to by several divisions concentrated in the neighbourhood, a superior officer is attached to it.

The visitations of this scourge are irregular and apparently independent of any special known atmospheric influences. In 1863 only 19 cases were reported, while in 1864 there were 3,578,

and in 1865 2,727.

During 1865 the cases continued to occur more or less in every month of the year, but excepting in Trincomalie during January and February the disease could scarcely be said to be epidemic. When it is prevalent in the coast of India it is certain to find its way into this country through the medium of the immigrant coolies, and it will be seen by that 936 cases, or more than a third of the whole number, are reported from Manaar, the spot of arrival of coolies from the coast. By them the disease is conveyed along the great central road, and eventually is carried into Matalé and Kandy, the localities in these towns in which the least attention is paid to sanitary conditions becoming invariably the focus of the disease. It is difficult to say how it arises in Colombo, but the unhealthy condition of the pettah, its filthy drains and cespools, and the enormous amount of surface impurities render it only astonishing that when once cholera commences it ever ceases before it has decimated the whole population. Its haunts in the pettah of Colombo are well known by those officers whose duties have brought them in contact with the disease, and during its prevalence its invariable attraction to certain neighbourhoods is a sufficient proof of the influence of local causes for the spreading, if not the actual propagation of the disease.

It is to be haved that the manifestal actual propagation of the disease.

It is to be hoped that the municipal council will exercise their power to ameliorate the present sanatory condition of the poor native class of inhabitants, and, by a proper system of drainage, prevent the accumulation of filth which now forms a focus of disease.

Small pox has hardly existed during the year, 373 cases being the total number throughout the land. Of these, 55 died, 38 of whom bore no previous marks of vaccination, 12 unsatisfactory

Island. Of these, 55 died, 38 of whom bore no previous marks of vaccination, 12 unsatisfactory marks, and only 5 deaths occurred with satisfactory marks.

The vaccination during the year 1865 has not been quite so satisfactory as during the previous year. 68,289 were vaccinated, as against 74,811 in 1864, a decrease of 6,522. If, however, the successful vaccinations are taken, the decrease is less, being 49,838 in 1865, against 53,851 in 1864, a difference of only 4,013. On looking into the details of each year I find that this decrease is most marked in the Northern Province, which shows only 8,508 successfully vaccinated in 1865, against 12,608 in 1864, or a difference of 4,100, which is more than equal to the total decrease of the

I regret to be obliged to state that this falling off in the Northern Province is to be attributed in a large degree to the extreme inefficiency of its superintendence by the superintending civil medical

officer of the Province.

When I returned to Ceylon I found that he had been absent for eight weeks during the early part of the year from ill health, which compelled him to give the duties up entirely in the following September, and during his absence this important duty was much neglected. The native vaccinators were left without supervision, and their work was most inefficiently performed, a condition of things which I regret to remark has continued more or less up to the present moment, and will continue to exist until I am able to place an active civil medical officer at the head of the department in Jaffina. The military have in a very obliging manner done their best to aid me in the difficulties in which the weak state of the department has placed me, but it must always be remembered that a military officer is unable to leave his station, and that active personal superintendence over the whole district which a civilian is able to exercise cannot be expected from a military officer.

I am bound also to state that vaccination does not receive that active support from the civil authorities of the Northern Province, which would spring from a complete belief in the protection it

affords the human race from small pox.

Although our small pox returns annually show in a most satisfactory form the prophylactic influence of vaccination, I am aware that in a long past correspondence an attempt was made to throw a doubt on this conclusion, which has now come to be considered an established fact throughout the whole of Europe. Other circumstances connected with vaccination, such as the propagation of disease through its means, have lately engaged the attention of the profession, but its prophylactic powers as a protection against small pox have remained undisputed.

The Vaccination Act has been in active operation in certain portions of the Island, and I attach a table, showing the special stations in which it has been put in force, and the date of the notice in the

Gazette.

Stations at which the Vaccination Ordinance has been in force.

Government Gazette, May 28, 1864. Colombo September 24, 1864. ditto Kandy April 8, 1865. May 27, 1865. ditto Galle ditto Gampola June 24, 1865. ditto Putlam

In many instances it has led to a decided increase in the numbers successfully vaccinated, and of

these I may mention particularly the Central and the Southern Provinces.

I have requested the Superintendent of Vaccination for the Western Province to draw up a special report on the subject, to be attached to my return for the current year. se In conclusion, the same may be said of the vaccination as of many other of the small special larvices of the Government, which have been carried on for many years upon principles which were id down for it a quarter of a century ago, and have continued to be acted upon ever since.

Small pox.

Vaccination.

The several reforms and improvements which have of late been introduced into, and are still being effected in different branches of the service, seem to have fallen short of this particular one, but from the difficulty now daily experienced in obtaining the services of trustworthy natives for vaccination appointments when they become vacant, proves how necessary it will shortly become to make an inquiry into the subject, with the view of improving the position of native vaccinators.

CEYLON.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c., oned) W. P. CHARSLEY, M.D., (Signed) Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Enclosure 6 in No. 23.

CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMISSION.—REPORT.

THE Central School Commission have the honour to submit to the Legislative Council their Report for the past year (July 1, 1864—June 30, 1865).

2. On the 31st December 1864 there were 108 Government schools in operation, which had on their Statistics of rolls at that date 5,232 pupils, with an average attendance, during the year, of 4,062. This shows a education. decrease of 1 school and of 516 pupils as compared with the year 1863.

3. The per-centage of scholars who, at the close of the year 1864, had attended the same Govern- Period of ment school for periods varying from less than one year to more than five years, is as follows:-

Less than one year.	One year and less than two years.	Two years and less than three years.	Three years and less than four years.	Four years and less than five years.	Five years and upwards.
38.82	22.82	15.23	9.04	7.05	7.03

4. Per-centage of children of the different ages from "under five" to "over fifteen" in the different Age of pupils. classes of schools.

Schools.	Under five.	Between five and six.	Between six and seven.	Between seven and eight.	Between eight and nine.	Between nine and ten.	Between ten and eleven.	Between eleven and twelve.	Between twelve and thirteen.	Between thirteen and fourteen.	Between fourteen and fifteen.	Over fifteen.
Colombo Academy -	_		_	1.70	.68	3.40	4.76	8.50	12.92	14.62	13.26	40.13
Superior schools			-	•55	3.84	3.29	6.59	6.59	11.53	8.79	16.48	42.30
English schools		1.53	2.29	5.19	7.95	7.95	12.84	10.85	13.15	12.23	9.95	16.05
Mixed schools	1.01	2.67	4.05	6.00	5.78	8.10	9.33	9.62	10.85	9.91	8.82	23.80
Vernacular schools -	•26	3.22	7.53	11.74	15.90	14.55	12.47	11.07	9.82	6.44	3.53	3.43
Superior girls' schools -	1.74	3.84	9.44	8.74	10.14	12.58	11.51	16.08	11.18	9.79	2.76	2.09
Mlxed girls' schools -	5.35	4.93	12.34	14.40	14.40	20.16	13.99	4.93	6.99	1.64	*82	_
Vernacular girls' schools	2.24	8.98	13.85	12.73	17.22	15.73	14.23	7.86	3.37	2.24	•37	1.12
Total	•82	2.98	5.92	8.46	10.64	11.22	11.16	10.18	10.36	8.37	6.40	13.45

5. The expenditure on account of education during the year 1864 amounted to 15,331l. 12s. 3\frac{3}{4}d., showing an increase of 811l. 8s. 8\frac{3}{4}d. as compared with 1863, when the expenditure was 14,520l. 3s. 7d. penditure in 1864, as compared with 1863.

Expenditure. 1860-1864.

	4	Years.		1	Vot	ed.		Expended.			
9. 3.					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1860				-	14,700	18	5	13,365	2	41	
1861	-	-	-	-	16,475		8	14,306		21/2	
1862	-	-		-	16,674		3	14,099	7	$6\frac{3}{4}$	
1863	-	-	-	-	15,306		0	14,520	3	7	
1864	-		-	-	16,298		3	15,331	12	33	

7. The sum of 17,3891. 3s. 9d. was voted for the current year, and the educational estimate for 1866 Estimate for amounts to 17,280l. 2s. 8d.

8. The amount realized by school fees in 1864 was 2,069l. 12s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$., to which must be added School fees. 69l. 1s. $9\frac{1}{4}d$., being receipts on account of stationery, showing a decrease in the receipts from schools in 1864, as compared with 1863, of 184l. 19s. 6d., and as compared with 1862, of 156l. 3s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$.

9. The amount of grants made to private and other schools during the year 1864 is 803l.

Grants in aid.

10. Since the date of the last report the following schools have been opened:—a boys' mixed school New schools. at Dambool; a boys vernacular school at Wewitte; a boys' vernacular school at Heenkende; a vernacular girls' school at Bandaragama. And the following schools have been closed:—Kornegalle girls' school; Rammutugalla vernacular school; Badulla Tamil school. The following schools remain tem-

CEYLON.

porarily closed, for want of efficient teachers:—the mixed school at Putlam; the mixed school at Calmone.

Mathematical prize.

Local examination. Colombo

Academy, Lower school.

11. There were no candidates for the mathematical prize in January last.

11. There were no candidates for the mathematical prize in January last.

12. The Turnour prize for the current year was gained by Mr. F. Bevan.

13. The Examiner's report of the third local examination, held under the Government notification of the 26th November 1861, will be found in the Appendix. (Not printed.)

14. Mr. D. Gogerly, the head master of the Lower school of the Colombo Academy, having been compelled by ill-health to resign his office, the Secretary of State for the Colonies appointed as his successor Mr. G. Hawkins, a trained teacher from St. Mark's College, Chelsea, who had been engaged for several years in teaching in England, and received the highest testimonials from the gentlemen with whom he had been connected. Mr. Hawkins entered upon his duties on the 22nd of May.

15. Mr. S. T. Taylor, head master of the Kandy Central school, having taken holy orders contrary to the expressed wish of the Commission, was called upon to resign his office, and Mr. J. Hill, a trained English teacher of considerable experience, and the holder of high testimonials as to his acquirements

Kandy Central school. English teacher of considerable experience, and the holder of high testimonials as to his acquirements and general proficiency, was appointed by the Secretary of State as his successor. Mr. Hill entered upon his duties on the 11th of May.

Calcutta University. 16. The result of the last examination at Queen's College and the Colombo Academy, in connexion with the University of Calcutta, was as follows:—Mr. J. P. Obeyesekere passed, in the first division, the first examination in arts, and Messrs. H. Marshall and P. Ephraims, in the second division, the entrance examination of the University of Calcutta.

Galle girls' school.

Colombo Industrial school.

17. Miss Lloyd, who had been appointed by the Secretary of State to the principalship of the Galle girls' school, having relieved Miss Grey in December last, the latter proceeded to Jaffna to enter upon her duties as principal of the Jaffna girls' school.

18. The Rev. J. Thurstan having proceeded to England on leave of absence, the Rev. J. C. Mill has been appointed acting principal of the Colombo Industrial school. A statement of the receipts and expenditure of the school for the year ending 31st December 1864, will be found in the Appendix.

19. The inspector's reports, with the accompanying tables, give every information as to the state of

the Central, English, and mixed schools in all the Provinces.

20. The Commission has been deprived during the past year of the services of some of its most valuable members:—the Rev. G. Schrader, who resigned his seat at the Board on his appointment as Acting Colonial Chaplain of Galle; the Rev. R. Spence Hardy, who has left the Colony; C. A. Lorenz, Esq., whose resignation of his seat as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council in the control of the control of the council of the control of the council of the control of the control of the council of the control involved his retirement from the Board, and the Rev. E. Miliani, whose connexion with the Board had not been of more than a few months' duration.

21. The thanks of the Commission are due to the sub-committees of Kandy, Galle, and other stations, and to several official and private superintendents, for their valuable aid in reference to the schools in which they have respectively interested themselves.

22. Financial and statistical returns, similar to those appended to the last report, will be found in the Appendices.

W. C. Gibson, President. J. BROOKE H. BAILEY, Secretary.

HONG KONG.

No. 24.

HONG KONG.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir RICHARD G. MACDONNELL, C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 125.) My LORD,

Government House, Hong Kong, September 15, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of 1865 for this Colony. I transmit at the same time an explanatory report which Mr. Mercer, the Colonial Secretary, left with me when quitting the Colony on leave of absence at the end of last

As that report states that Mr. Mercer then placed the Blue Book before me, I must explain that in reality it was not completed nor laid before me till the beginning of this I trust that I have adopted such measures as will prevent its completion being

deferred to so late a period again.

Although the Blue Book contains much interesting matter, I refrain from adding any comments to those offered by Mr. Mercer, as I did not arrive in the Colony till March of the present year.

I have, &c. RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, (Signed) Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

Hong Kong.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hong Kong,

May 30, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to place before your Excellency the Blue Book of Hong Kong for the year 1865.

Mint.

2. During that period it will be seen that the Colony has steadily advanced, and among the prominent points to be noted is the construction of the Mint, and the arrival of the master and staff of that establishment from England. It was not, however, opened within the year, though it has since

3. On 1st January 1865, the city of Victoria was lighted with gas, an important mark in the progress of the place.

Education.

4. The Board of Education has been abolished, and Mr. Stewart has taken over, as was originally intended, the entire charge of the Government schools.

Civil Service Cadets.

5. Three new Civil Service cadets arrived towards the end of the year, and were at once set down to the study of the language. The first three that arrived in 1862 have completed their course, and have proved very useful officers.

Legislation.

6. Some important ordinances have been passed, of which may be specially named the Limited Liability or "the Companies Ordinance," and a series consolidating the Criminal Law, for which the Government is much indebted to Messrs. Ball and Alexander.

Sickliness of Summer.

7. I regret to say that during the summer the sickness and mortality were great, especially among the military, and so severe among these that it attracted the attention of the Home Parliament, and occasioned the appointment of a committee of inquiry. The season, however, was generally unhealthy along this part of the sea-board of China.

Deaths of Officers.

8. A vacancy was caused on the bench of the Supreme Court by the death of Chief Justice Adams, and two pensioners of Government, Messrs. Grandpré and Inglis, were also reported deceased.

Water Supply.

9. Arrangements were carried out for increasing the water supply, which, however, is still inadequate, and further provision must be made.

Piracy.

10. It must unfortunately be reported that piracy in the neighbourhood of the Colony has been as rife as ever, and I fear it must so continue until some pressure shall be brought to bear on the Imperial Government of China, by which their culpable apathy in this respect may be removed, and they be made to acknowledge and perform the duty that reasonably devolves upon them of keeping under control their own people on their own coasts and in their own territories.

11. As the last instalments of the indemnity have been recently paid to both the British and French Governments, this drain on the foreign customs' revenue ceases, and the Chinese Government should be invited to apply a portion of their funds thus released to the suppression of a crime which tells so disastrously against the lives and property, not of Chinese only, but of all who are engaged in carrying on the important commerce of the country.

Police.

12. In connexion with this subject I may refer to the police, which has ever been our great difficulty. I am of opinion that the experiment of Bombay recruiting (though quite called for as an experiment), has proved a failure, and that some other expedient must be devised for organizing an efficient force. In the Bombay men the vice of extortion was notorious and ineradicable, and with a native body (Chinese) I fear the same results. Europeans of course cannot stand the climate, especially with the grievous habit of intemperance to which they are almost invariably prone. At the same time I must state that Mr. May, whose experience and authority on this point are entitled to all weight, differs from me in opinion, and thinks the Bombay experiment not fairly tried, while he condemns the proposal from me in opinion, and thinks the Bombay experiment not fairly tried, while he condemns the proposal to try once more a Chinese force. However I am aware that this matter engages your Excellency's attention, and I only allude to it here, as a review of the condition of Hong Kong would be incomplete without touching on the much discussed question of police efficiency.

Finance.

13. As to its financial position the Colony has no cause to feel depressed. It is true that the large surplus balance is being gradually diminished, but with the military contribution and the enormous mint expenditure this is not to be wondered at. With some curtailment (undesirable I admit), in the public works and in some minor directions, the revenue of Hong Kong should always meet the expenditure, after the two heavy items just mentioned shall no longer be a charge on it. 18352.

Hong Kong.

Arrear of Rates.

14. During the past year the collection of rates has fallen considerably into arrear, and a commission of inquiry was instituted, and a report made.

Official Reports.

15. I would call special attention to the annual reports of the following officers, as from them much information may be collected as to the position of the Colony:

1. The Harbour Master's,

2. The Registrar General's,

3. The Colonial Surgeon's,
4. The Postmaster General's, and

5. The School Inspector's.

Effect on Hong Kong of proposed Railways in China.

12. It may not be out of place to conclude with a matter which will hereafter have intimate connexion with the well-being or otherwise of the Colony, and that is the proposed establishment of railways in China.

17. In the early part of the year I was applied to privately for my views on this subject, which were forwarded to Sir MacDonald Stephenson (the introducer of railways into India), who had visited this Colony for the purpose of informing himself on railway prospects in China. Later in the year I introduced a deputation of the merchants of the Colony to Sir Rutherford Alcock, Her Majesty's minister at Peking, when the project was discussed.

18. I do not see any immediate prospect of the scheme being carried out, but as the question is important in its bearings on the future of Hong Kong, and as it has engaged public attention during the year now past, I may be pardoned for taking this opportunity of putting forward my views

upon it. 19. I think benefit instead of harm will result to the Colony by the introduction of railways into China, and in this way: the most central spot of Chinese commerce, i.e., of foreign commerce with China, is Hankow and the valley of the Yangtze. Foreign vessels must come up from the south to reach these marts, and thus have a long coasting voyage say from Hong Kong to Shanghai, 800 miles, and nearly 600 miles from that port to Hankow. All the risk and expense and waste of time involved in such a voyage is saved if a railway be made from Hankow to the south of China, and it is evident that this line, being the most natural and the most feasible, will be the first or one of the first established.

20. The port in the south to which it would probably, from old association, be directed is Canton, and here the very same reason that would suggest a rail from Hankow to Canton would point to its continuation to the magnificent harbour of Hong Kong, only 90 miles distant.

21. Vessels would attain the same object in a smaller degree by getting their cargoes brought from Canton to Hong Kong, and thus saving an 80 miles tow to Whampoa, 12 miles from Canton (for they can get no nearer), as they achieve by the Hankow rail, which saves them the lengthy and hazardous variage which I have just described voyage which I have just described.

22. There can be little doubt then that this is the course which railways in China will take, and that their establishment will result in making Hong Kong a greater commercial emporium than it now is,

or than its fondest promoters ever conceived.

I have, &c. W. T. MERCER, (Signed) Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B.,

LABUAN.

LABUAN.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor CALLAGHAN to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 23).

Labuan, September 8, 1866. My LORD,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of Labuan for 1865. The returns exhibit a noticeable increase in the revenue and trade of the Colony over

the preceding year. The value of the imports and exports amounted respectively to 104,190l. 4s. 6d. and

58,536l. 10s. 6d., against 84,049l. 8s. 2d., and 48,202l. 11s. 8d. in 1864. The progress made at the coal mines was not so satisfactory as in the previous year, arising in a great measure from the difficulties connected with the supply of suitable

labour to carry on the mining operations. The yield of coal amounted to 11,830 tons, and the quantity shipped to 7,997 tons, both exhibiting a decrease on the year 1864.

KABHAN.

However, efforts are being made by the China Steamship and Labuan Coal Company to improve the supply of labour, and there is every evidence on their part of a disposition to carry on the works vigorously, and on a more extensive scale than hitherto.

They contemplate making a railway from Coal Point to Victoria Harbour, a distance of

about seven miles.

A survey has been made, and I am informed it has been ascertained that a line can be constructed at a comparatively small cost.

Towards the end of the year the company commenced to run a steamer between this

and Singapore.

Two of their steamers have since commenced to run between Singapore and Amoy, calling at Labuan and Manilla en route.

It is to be hoped that the establishment of this line will improve the trade and prospects

of this Colony, which has long suffered from the want of steam communication.

Indications of the existence of petroleum at a short distance from the coal mines attracted a good deal of attention. The company recently commenced boring in the locality in question, but the work has not yet sufficiently advanced to enable me to judge of the prospects of the undertaking.

I regret to say that there was a great deal of fever during the year, from which both

Europeans and natives suffered.

I believe 1865 was, throughout the east, a most unhealthy year.

Some progress was made in the drainage of the large swamp near the town, but a great deal more work of this kind will have to be done before any decided inprovement can be looked for in the health of the Island.

The building of a Protestant church was commenced last year, and it has since been

completed.

The principal public work undertaken by the Government was the erection of a new

gaol, to which I have already referred in a former communication.

I am not aware that there is anything else in connexion with these returns calling for observation on my part.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. F. CALLAGHAN,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnaryon, &c. &c. &c.

Governor,

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MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.

GIBRALTAR. No. 26.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 26.

Extract from a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. AIREY, dated March 6, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1865, the accuracy of which has been certified by the Colonial Secretary.

The actual revenue for the year was 32,094l., and the current expenditure for

ordinary works and administration was 30,162l.

The real expenditure amounted to 34,789l., but only 33,809l. was actually paid, the remainder, 980l., was carried over. Some of the bills for works and buildings not having

been finished in time.

This real expenditure includes a sum of 3,619l. for alterations and rebuilding at the Convent, or Government House, and constructing a new tank, also special and extraordinary grant of 708l. sterling for the supply of medicines, for medical attendance on the poor, and funerals of paupers during the late epidemic of cholera, and the sum of 300l. for repairs to the Civil Hospital, out of the grant of 1,000l. authorized for that

The current excess of revenue over expenditure for all ordinary works and administra-

tion being 1,932l., I consider the state of the revenue satisfactory.

In pages 28 and 30 are seen the increase and decrease on various sources of revenue from the preceding year.

The principal items upon which an increase has been derived, are— £ 1,086 Duty on spirits 640 116 Licences for retail wine and spirit stores 278 Rates and duties in the port department 182 Ground and house rents

whilst the decrease on items of revenue has been immaterial.

The slight alteration made by the Order in Council of 7th August 1865, on the duties on wines and spirits, and which only came into operation on 1st September last, has been productive of good results.

The revenue of 1865 was 32,094l., and that of 1864 was 29,826l., showing an increase

of 2,268l. sterling.

The resident population, according to a census taken in June 1860, amounted to 15,462, and is exclusive of the military, the convicts, and aliens on temporary permits, varying from three days to a year. The number of the latter varies, but in the month of December last was 892.

The number of births among the resident population was 633; deaths 855; and

marriages 194.

Under the head of Miscellaneous Returns are inserted the number of cases heard and

disposed of in the various courts of law in Gibraltar.

The schools are ten in number, in which are educated 1,062 boys and 864 girls; besides these there are seven regimental schools, in which are instructed 232 boys and 235 girls.

MALTA.

No. 27.

MALTA,

No. 27.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Officer Administering the Government to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 43.) Palace, Valetta, May 30, 1866. SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Malta for the year 1865. I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM RIDLEY, Major-General, Administering the Government, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

HELIGOLAND AND FALKLANDS.

HELIGO-LAND. No. 28.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 28.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Maxse to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(Separate.)

Heligoland, August 6, 1866. My LORD.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for 1865. In a commercial sense there is nothing of interest contained in the Heligoland Blue Book out of its own very limited sphere.

I am glad, however, to inform your Lordship that the Island is, thanks to the reforms introduced by the Constitution of 1864, progressing.

The Island debt, enormous for the circumstances of Heligoland, has been reduced considerably for the first time by a comparatively large sum, viz., 610l. 12s. 2d., which, with such a moderate revenue, and the necessary heavy expenses incurred in 1865, in thoroughly refurnishing the Conversation House, and making a new and extensive bulwark against the sea on Sandy Island, I consider to be most satisfactory.

For the first time for years the Heligoland oyster-bank has been worked in virtue of an ordinance empowering a committee to work the same at the expense of the Colonial

This branch of trade had, up to the 31st of December 1865, divided over 1,500l. amongst the fishermen of the Island, a most sensible and unexpected relief for the winter, and next season I expect that the oyster-fishery will, in addition, yield a satisfactory surplus to the Island treasury.

Taxation on personal property has been introduced on a light scale, and also a small tax on wines and spirits, which will later, I trust, prove most useful to the finances of the

Island.

At present there has been some difficulty in collecting the taxes, as was indeed to be expected, taxation being a new institution.

Trusting that the contents of the Blue Book will meet with your approval.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

FITZ MAXSE, Lieut.-Colonel.

FALKLANDS.

No. 29.

FALKLANDS.

No. 29.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Mackenzie to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 34.)

Government House, Falkland Islands,

June 30, 1866.

SIR. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1865. The tabular statistics contained therein vary so slightly from the returns of the previous year, that it is unnecessary to dwell upon them in detail.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c.

I have, &c.

J. G. MACKENZIE, (Signed)

Governor.

LONDON:

Printed by George E. Eyre and William Spottiswoode, Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

For the Year 1866.

PART I.—WEST INDIES.

Presented to both Mouses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty,

March 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

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PART I.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA.

4

No. 1.

No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir John P. Grant, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 260.)

My Lord Duke,

King's House, December 24, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace, herewith, the Blue Book of Jamaica for 1866, with my report on its contents.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

J. P. GRANT.

Enclosure in No. 1.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK FOR 1866.

Constitution and Legislation.

In December 1865, two Acts were passed by the late Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Jamaica, intituled, respectively, 29 Vict. cap. 11. "An Act to alter and "amend the Political Constitution of this Island;" and 29 Vict. cap. 24. "An Act to "amend an Act passed in the present Session entitled an Act to alter and amend the "Political Constitution of this Island." By the first of these Acts it was provided that from and after the coming into operation thereof the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Jamaica, and all the privileges and functions of those two bodies, should cease and determine; and by the second of these Acts it was made lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to constitute a government for Jamaica in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty might seem fitting, and from time to time to alter and amend such government. Effect was given to these Acts of the Colonial Legislature by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, 29 Vict. cap. 12., entitled, "An Act to make Provision for "the Government of Jamaica," which enacted that in construing the secondly recited Act, the term Government should be held to include Legislature, and that the powers exercisable by Her Majesty under the two Acts should be exercisable by Her Majesty in Council.

In the exercise of the powers thus conferred upon the Queen, Her Majesty was pleased, by Order in Council dated 11th June 1866, to establish a Legislative Council in Jamaica, to be composed of such officers and of such persons as she might think fit to be respectively official and unofficial members of the Council; and Her Majesty was pleased to order that until otherwise declared by any instruction under Her sign manual, the senior military officer in command of the troops within the Island, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney General, the Financial Secretary, the Director of Roads, and the Collector of Customs should be the official members. And the Governor was empowered to appoint one or more persons to act provisionally as unofficial members, in case at any time the members of such unofficial councillors present in the Colony should be less than six.

A Legislative Council thus constituted was called together by me on the 16th of October 1866, composed of all the official members enumerated by the Order in Council, with the exception of the Director of Roads, who had not at that time been appointed, and of three unofficial councillors provisionally appointed by me, who have since been appointed to the office by Her Majesty.

Nine acts were passed by the Council before the expiration of the year 1866, now

under report. Of these the most important are the following:-

No. 8, for making alterations in the law consequent on the constitution of the Legislative Council created by order of the Queen in Council, dated 11th June 1866. This Act repeals various Acts and parts of Acts of the previous Legislature, which had ceased to have effect and operation in consequence of the change of Constitution; and it vests in the officers of the new Government the powers and functions of the former executive committee, and of various bodies politic, boards, and officers, which had ipso facto ceased and determined, or which the altered system of government rendered it expedient to abolish. The principal provisions of this law are those which vest in the Governor the powers previously exercised by the Governor in executive committee, or with their advice; and which define the powers and functions of the Colonial Secretary,

JAMAIGA.

the Financial Secretary, and the Director of Roads; and those which abolish the elective vestries and road boards in the parishes, and empower the Governor to create boards of nominated members in their stead.

Law No. 2 of 1866, enabling the Governor to appoint any justice of the peace a stipendiary justice, and to give such justice all the powers belonging to two justices of the peace, sitting together. This law is designed to obviate delays in the administration of justice in petty sessions arising from the occasional non-attendance of unpaid magis-

trates at petty sessions.

Law No. 1 of 1866, a law to increase and secure the revenue from rum. increases the duty on rum from 2s. 9d. to 5s. 0d. a gallon, a measure rendered necessary by the enormous deficit in the finances of the financial year ending with September 1866.

Law No. 7 of 1866, to continue certain additional customs' duties which had been imposed in order to defray the cost of a monthly steam communication between this island and New York, which was discontinued for reasons of economy. This retention of additional customs' duties was also a measure rendered necessary by the extremely unsatisfactory state in which the finances of the Colony were left by the late Legislature of the Colony. The contract for maintaining a monthly communication by steam with New York, at a cost of 4,900l. a year, was determined by mutual consent, having been found to be a losing bargain to the contractors, and to bring no advantage to the Island equivalent to its cost.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year ended 30th September 1866, amounted to 327,359l. 3s. 7d. The gross expenditure for the same period amounted to 395,597l. 14s. 6d., showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 68,238l. 10s. 0d. Of this gross expenditure a sum of 40,719l. 2s. 4d. was extraordinary in its nature; 33,179l. 10s. 1d. having been incurred on account of the disturbances in October 1865, and 7,539l. 12s. 3d. on account of other services which had been provided for by loans. Deducting this expenditure of an extraordinary nature from the deficit of 68,238l. 10s. 11d. there remains an apparent excess of ordinary expenditure over gross revenue of 27,519l. 8s. 7d.

But the true deficiency greatly exceeded this amount. The ordinary expenditure was shown by one sum of 2,900l. less than it ought to have been, owing to that amount, accidentally, not having been paid over to certain sinking funds before the close of the year, as it ought to have been; and by another sum of 13,075l. less than it ought to have been, owing to that amount having been diverted, temporarily, from the immigration fund to which it belonged, as it were by a loan from that fund, and having been spent upon the ordinary charges of the Colony. And the gross revenue of the year was shown at a much larger sum than was truly due to the year, by reason of a large quantity of rum having been taken out of bond in the course of the year, and stored as duty paid rum for consumption in the following year, in anticipation of the increase of excise duty, the necessity of which had become apparent to intelligent speculators early in the interval between the last prorogation of the old House of Assembly and the opening of the new Legislative Council. At the time it was guessed that these anticipatory payments had raised the revenues of the year 1865-66 by more than 13,000l. beyond the amount due to the taxation of the year. But now it has become certain that this was by much too low an estimate, and that the amount which must have been paid by anticipation in this manner may fairly be estimated at something about 20,000l.

On the whole it may be stated as a sufficiently close approximation to the truth, for practical purposes, that the revenue due to the taxation of the year fell short of the

ordinary expenditure of the year by more than 60,000l.

The difference between the actual receipts and actual expenditure within the year, viz., 68,238l. 10s. 11d. was met partly by loans, and partly out of the cash balances of the Colony, which amounted,-

					£	S.	d.
to -					42,133	4	8
to -	a ky d	guan.					6
debt on	loans				33,772	13	2
-		£37,100	0	0			
Section -							
		A		-	34,465	17	9
-		•		-	68,238	10	11
t	debt on	debt on loans	debt on loans - £37,100 - 2,634	debt on loans - £37,100 0 - 2,634 2	debt on loans - £37,100 0 0 - 2,634 2 3	debt on loans - £37,100 0 0 - 2,634 2 3 - 34,465	debt on loans - £37,100 0 0 - 2,634 2 3 - 34,465 17

JAMAICA.

The year 1865-66 is but one of a series of years in which the annual accounts show a succession of deficits, both in respect of gross charges and of ordinary charges alone, which it was the practice to meet by new loans, raised year after year.

The following table affords an analysis of the financial accounts for the years from

1861-62 to 1865-66:-

TABLE.

Years.	Exce ordicharge gross re (recei loans ex	nary s ov ven	er ues,	Expen from and fr raised special p	loans unds	3	Gross e of expend			Loans and income of depayal	reas	se	Paid o sinking			Cash b at the of the	clos	se	Total rec of rever		
1861-2 1862-3 1863-4 1864-5 1865-6	3,376 7,569 14,016 19,587 27,519	7 11	5 11 7 2 7	31,320 33,708 25,887 25,630 40,719	5 0 0	0 0 0 0 4	34,696 41,277 39,903 45,217 68,238	12 11 6	7 2	36,275 34,911 36,317 33,995 34,465	8 6 12 2 17	10 3 8 0 9	14,212 14,962 15,637 16,492 14,212	6 6 6 6 6	0 0 0 0	63,307 56,941 53,355 42,133 8,360	7 8 4	5 9 10 3 6	338,238 344,760 333,496 334,877 327,359	1 13 5	2 10 1 10 7
Total -	72,068	16	8	157,264	7	4	229,333	4	0	175,965	7	6	75,516	10	0	224,098	7	2	1,678,731	8	6
Annual Average	14,413	15	4	31,452	17	5	45,866	12	9	35,193	1	6	15,103	6	0	44,819	13	5	335,746	5	8

My first consideration on assuming this Government was to devise means by which the expenditure of the Colony might be brought within the limits of the revenue. It was obvious that for this purpose recourse must be had to increased taxation. After effecting every retrenchment immediately practicable, and allowing for certain improvements in the departments of Police and Justice, which were of immediate and vital necessity, the Financial Secretary, in his estimates for the year 1866-67, calculated that it would be still necessary to provide by new taxes for a deficit of about 20,000l. As the measures for this purpose were adopted in the course of the current year 1867, they will fall to be noticed in my report on the Blue Book for this year.

Public Debt.

The total debt of the Island on 30th September 1866 amounted to 908,308l. 11s. 5d., as shown by the following table:—

Debt at 30th September 1866. £ d. S. d. 23,867 19 Curates' fund 1 Rectors' fund 6 11 27,321 Apprentices' valuation 2,168 5 5 53,357 11 Guaranteed loan, 17 Vict. cap. 29. 500,000 0 0 Immigration guaranteed loan, 15 Vict. cap. 39. 50,000 0 0 Ditto, ditto, 15 & 16 Vict., 2nd moiety 50,000 0 0 600,000 0 Loan, 18 Vict. cap. 66. Annotto Bay Junction 8,600 0 road Loan, 21 Vict. cap. 44., and 22 Vict. cap. 24. Main road loan, 21 Vict. cap. 34. Main road new loan, 24 Vict. cap. 26. 32,150 0 0 50,100 0 37,250 0 0 Loan, 26 Vict. sess. 2, cap. 5., further to main roads . 12,000 0 0 Immigration Loan Act, 1858 12,138 0 0 Loan, 26 Vict. sess. 2. cap. 20.—Repairs 15,000 0 0 Tramroad Acts, 1858-62. 0 0 5,050 Loan, 27 Vict. cap. 24.—Roads and bridges Loan, 27 Vict. cap. 37.—Further repairs, &c. Loan, 28 Vict. cap. 24.—Kingston streets 23,989 0 0 11,750 0 0 6,950 0 0 Loan, 28 Vict. cap. 26. -8,900 0 0 Loan, 29 Vict. cap. 4.—Rebellion 31,600 0 255,481

£908,838 11

JAMAICA.

Of this total, 53,357l. 11s. 5d., being the amount of the rectors' and curates' funds, and the apprentices' valuation, are permanent investments at 6 per cent.; 600,000l. has been raised under Imperial guarantee, and bears interest at 4 per cent., with 2 per cent. for sinking fund.

The remainder of the debt, amounting to 255,481l., forms a debenture debt at 6 per cent. interest, for great part of which sinking funds at 2 per cent. per annum are

provided.

The charge for interest and sinking fund for the year ending 30th September 1866 (exclusive of a sum of 2,900*l*. for sinking funds due in 1865, but accidentally left unpaid within that year), amounted to 65,115*l*. 16s. 4d. To this has to be added the sum of 5,556*l*. 7s. 10d. for annuities to charities, &c., in lieu of interest on their investments, making a total charge for the year of 70,472*l*. 4s. 2d.

Against the total debt of 908,834l., has to be set off as assets the amounts of the several sinking funds. The payments to those funds amounted at 30th September 1866

to 151,517l.

Militia, Volunteers, Police, and Constabulary.

The militia is not embodied.

The volunteers at the close of 1866 mustered nominally 42 corps, numbering 1,663 men of all ranks. Many of these corps, however, had been represented to me as disorganized and inefficient, and the result of a subsequent inspection of the force has been that I have found it necessary to disband the greater part of it. It has now been reduced to 15 companies, comprising 510 men.

Police.

The inefficiency of the police was a fact which I found on my assumption of the government to be universally admitted. It was proved in a lamentable manner in the disturbance of 1865, when the police had as little knowledge beforehand of the storm that had been brewing, as they had power to withstand it when it broke out; and for ordinary purposes the inefficiency of the police soon forced itself on my notice. Measures were therefore taken for the reorganization of the police. A law authorizing the formation of a force very much on the model of the Irish constabulary has been passed by the Colonial Legislature, and has received Her Majesty's assent. It will form one of the subjects of my report for 1867.

Imports and Exports.

The imports for 1865 amounted For 1866 to	to		£ 1,050,984 1,030,796	0	
Decrease -	-	-	20,188	0	0

This slight falling off preceded a crisis in 1867, which has resulted in very numerous bankruptcies and a general collapse of trade. For several years past a system of overtrading upon fictitious capital, having met with undue encouragement, has been carried on to a great extent. The year under report closed this period of unwholesome inflation. A painful but necessary stringency has now succeeded, the results of which are lamentably apparent in the Customs revenue of 1866–67. But trade is now in a more healthy state than it has been for a long time past, though restricted in extent.

The exports for	1865	were	in the		£ 912,004	s. 0	<i>d</i> .	
For 1866 -				-	1,152,898			
Increase	-				240,894	0	0	

It is satisfactory to observe that for several years past there has been a progressive increase in the exports of all the principal staples of the Island. From the following return of the principal exports from 1830 to 1866, it will be seen that the exports of sugar and rum in 1866 were the largest since 1862; of coffee, the largest (with the exception of the crop of 1862) since 1857; of ginger, the largest since 1850; while the export of woods is the largest that has been known. It will be seen on examination of the return, that the trade in woods has sprung up within the last 30 years, and that it has increased from 895 tons of the value of 2,685*l*. in 1839, to 37,116 tons of the value of 74,232*l*. in 1866. Of this total export of 37,116 tons, 30,812 tons consisted of logwood; 1,195 tons of fustic; 284 tons of lignum vitæ; the remainder consisting of

Jamaica. bitter wood, ebony, quassia mahogany, and non-enumerated woods. There has also been a small export of spars to the number of 1,502.

Coins, &c.

The currency is English silver. American half and quarter dollars were also current until recently, but the Colonial Bank having refused to accept them, except at a heavy discount, they at once fell out of circulation.

The Colonial Bank is a bank of issue; and the average circulation of its notes in

1866 is stated at 92,154l. The notes are redeemable in silver.

Considerable inconvenience is felt from the want of a coin of lower denomination than the silver three-halfpenny bit. This want inflicts a considerable hardship on the poorer classes, and it operates to prevent the sale of articles of which the value is less than $1\frac{1}{2}d$, as the negroes will not take copper coin; but it is in contemplation to introduce a small coinage of nickel or other white, cleanly, and inodorous metal.

General Remarks.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that perfect tranquillity was maintained in the Colony during the year 1866, and has been maintained up to the present time. A state of contentment and of willing obedience to the law, in striking contrast with the state of feeling reported to have existed in 1865, has shown itself not only in an absence of all riotous spirit, but in a great diminution of ordinary crime. Two cases only have occurred since my assumption of the Government in August 1866, in which any precautions against a breach of the public peace was necessary. The first of these cases occurred in the first week after my arrival. It was an alleged serious riot on the estate of Hopewell, in which it was represented that the house of the proprietor had been broken into, and that other mischief had been done by the rioters. The investigation which I instituted into this affair showed that the story had been considerably exaggerated; that the disturbance was provoked by the conduct of the overseer in capriciously refusing to pay their wages to the labourers of the estate, after he had collected the men for the purpose of paying them; and that upon payment being made to them, the labourers went quietly away and the affair ended. Fifty-five of the people were subsequently brought up on trial at the Circuit Court, but all of them were acquitted.

The other case to which I refer is the ejectment of the squatters from Hartland's Estate, near Spanish Town. Previously to my arrival these squatters had resisted the surveyors sent by the proprietor to run the lines of the property, and Sir H. K. Storks found it necessary to send a force of 150 soldiers in support of the police, in order to enforce obedience to the law. Subsequently to my arrival the proprietor obtained a writ of ejectment, but the squatters opposed the Deputy Marshal, and he was unable to execute the writ. However, by clearly explaining to them their position, and the hopelessness of any resistance to the law, the people were induced to give an assurance that no resistance would be offered; and the writ was peaceably executed by the Deputy Marshal, who went to Hartlands for the purpose, unaccompanied by a single policeman. These people have been perfectly quiet ever since, and I believe they have come to terms with the owner of the land. With the exception of these two cases, I am not aware of any incident during the year of sufficient general interest to deserve mention

here.

The crops of 1866, both of sugar and coffee, as shown by the return of exports, were decidedly above the average of recent years; and although considerable depression began to be felt towards the close of the year, from the failure of trade, which has since increased, and has seriously affected the portion of the Public Revenue which is derived from the duties on imports, still that depression may be fairly regarded as temporary, and a healthier trade may be expected to take the place of that which of late years has been conducted in Jamaica. The production of sugar is indeed lamentably disproportionate to the natural capabilities of the Island, to the relative production of neighbouring Islands; and to the production of Jamaica itself in times past, under an artificial system of protection. But the downward tendency of this staple seems arrested; and of other produce a progressive increase appears to be taking place, which affords ground for anticipating a gradual advance in the material wealth and prosperity of the country. If only some reasonable settlement of the land question were effected I am convinced that the advance would be astonishing.

December 25, 1867.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

PORT OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

A RETURN of the Undermentioned Exports from the several Ports in this Island, in each Year, from 1830 to 1866.

JAMAICA.

Finan-			SUGAR.				Rum.	
for,—	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Dut
	Hhds.	£ s. c		£ s. d.	Pnchns.	£ s. d.		£ s. d
1831	94,881		6 -		36,411	400,521 4 3		£ 8. d
1832	98,686	1,282,918 1	3 _		33,685	370,535 3 2		
1833	85,101	1,106,313 4	5 —		34,976	384,736 1 5		
1834	84,756	1,101,828 3	4 -	_	32,111	353,221 7 6	The Late of the Saint	
1835	77,970		3 -		27,530	302,830 4 2		A STATE OF THE STA
1836	67,094		3		20,536	225,896 3 5		-
1837	61,505		6 -		21.976	241,736 8 3		THE PERSON
1838	69,613		6d. per cwt.	24,861 15 8	25,380	279,180 3 2	1d. per gal.	0 517 10
1839	49,243		3 5d. per cwt.	14,655 13 0	16,072	176,792 12 6	in. per gai.	9,517 10
1840	33,066		2	9,841 1 5	11,472	126,192 5 8	"	6,027 0 0
1841	34,491		3 ld. per cwt.	2,053 0 9	11,769	129,459 4 3	1d non mal	4,302 0 0 1,103 6
1842	50,295		7	2,000 0 0	16,566	182,226 11 8	$\frac{1}{4}d$. per gal.	1,103 6
1843	44,169		3 -	10.00	15,046	165,506 3 4		- B. T. E. B.
1844	34,444		_		11,631	127,941 7 5		
1845	47,926		3 -		16,997	186,967 6 3		
1846	36,223				14,394			7
1847	48,554			S. E.	18,077			
1848	32,045			The Manager	19,552	198,847 13 4	W - 1	
1849	40,672				16,367	215,072 7 6	75 - 75	
1850	36,038					180,037 5 3	2	A
1851	40,270	523,510 13			15,581	171,391 11 ,3		-
1852	34,449				18,481 15,703	203,291 4 8		-
1853	29,199	379,587 4		3,011 2 11		172,733 9 4	-	
1854	32,729	425,477 3 1	-	4,500 4 9	10,484	115,324 2 6	2s. per phn.	786 6 6
1855	28,715	373,295 7	, , , , ,	3,948 6 3	18,646	205,106 7 3	"	1,864 12 (
1856	25,972	337,636 15	, "	3,571 3 0	19,646	216,106 5 4	,,	1,964 12
1857	30,459	395,967 6		4,188 2 3	14,482	159,302 0 3	"	1,448 4 (
1858	33,032		, "	1	15,997	175,967 4 2	,,,	1,599 14 (
1859	28,750				18,193	200,123 13 6	"	1,819 6
1860	34,774	452,062 14		3,953 2 6 4,781 8 6	16,213	178,343 5 8	"	1,621 6
1861	35,064	455,832 12			19,205	211,255 6 7	29	1,920 10
1862	36,757		,	6,951 2 0	20,673	227,403 13 5	2s. and 2s. 6d.	3,359 7
1863	33,372			10,567 12 9	19,873	218,603 11 2	39	4,471 8
1864	28,593		77	9,594 9 0	17,274	190,014 14 6	,,	3,886 13
1865		,	, ,	8,220 9 9	13,597	149,567 8 4	,,	3,059 6
	26,814	348,582 7	77	7,709 0 6	14,586	160,446 5 6	**	3,281 17 (
1866	34,305	514,575 0)),	9,862 13 9	19,434	194,340 0 0	4s. 6d. per phn.	4,372 13 0

continued.

Finan-		Cor	FEE.			PIN	IENTO.	
ial Year for,—	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Lbs.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	Lbs.	£ s. d.		£ s.
1831	22,256,950	445,139 0 0			5,500,620	45,838 10 0		35 8.
1832	14,055,350	281,107 0 0	_	_	3,172,320	26,436 0 0		
1833	19,815,010	396,300 4 0	_	_	4,024,800	33,540 0 0		
1834	9,866,860	197,337 4 0		_	8,423,100	70,192 10 0		
1835	17,725,731	354,514 12 5		V 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1	3,731,400	31,095 0 0	PERMIT NEW	
1836	10,593,018	211,860 7 3	_		7,284,660	60,705 10 0		
1837	22,401,231	448,024 12 5	_		11,758,560	97,988 0 0		
1838	13,551,795	271,035 18 0	1s. 6d. per cwt.	9,074 17 3	2,708,640	22,572 0 0		
1839	8,897,421	177,948 8 5	1s. 3d. per cwt.	4,965 1 4	3,812,760	31,773 0 0		
1840	9,410,186	188,203 14 5	201	5,251 4 6	3,569,460	29,745 10 0		
1841	6,433,370	128,667 8 0	3d. per cwt.	718 0 2	3,579,180	29,826 10 0		
1842	7,135,975	142,719 10 0	out per out.	110 0 2	4,091,760	The state of the s	-	
1843	7,367,113	147,342 5 2			3,546,720	The state of the s		
1844	7,148,775	142,975 10 0	A STATE OF THE STA		1,462,440		The same of	_
1845	5,021,209	100,424 3 8			7,181,220	12,187 0 0		
1846	6,047,150	120,943 0 0			2,997,060	59,843 10 0		-
1847	6,421,122	128,422 8 10			2,800,140	24,975 10 0		_
1848	5,412,327	108,246 10 10				23,334 10 0		_
1849	3,430,228	68,604 11 2		_	4,627,920	38,566 0 0		
1850	5,042,417	100,848 7 2	CH BUILD		7,042,020	58,683 10 0	THE PROPERTY.	-
1851	5,595,273	111,905 9 4			4,824,720	40,206 0 0		_
1852	7,127,780	142,555 12 0			4,524,072	37,700 12 0		
1853	5,017,689	100,353 15 10	2s. per tierce.	280 0 2	5,447,203	45,393 7 2		
1854	3,990,672	79,813 8 10			4,679,105		4d. per 120 lbs.	487 8
1855	5,657,101	113,142 0 5	"		5,102,728	42,522 14 8	"	708 14
1856	3,328,147	66,562 18 10	"		7,662,573	63,854 15 6	2)	1,064 4
1857	7,095,623	141,912 9 5	22	424 10 2	6,848,622	57,071 17 0	"	951 3
1858	5,237,689	104,753 15 10	Day and the	905 1 4	8,719,748	72,664 11 4	,,,	1,211 1
1859	5,399,925	107,998 10 0	1244	668 1 5	9,465,261	78,877 3 6	"	1,314 12
1860	6,562,004		-	688 15 4	4,809,847	40,082 1 2	-	668 0
1861	6,766,954	131,240 1 8 135,339 1 8	0 - 7	836 19 10	3,826,243	31,885 7 2		531 8
1862			2s. and 4s.	2,157 16 8	8,863,249	73,860 8 2	4d. and 6d.	2,615 17
1863	5,601,157	112,023 2 10	"	2,143 6 0	5,536,513	46,137 12 2	,,	1,922 7
	8,485,731	169,714 12 5	27	3,247 1 10	4,466,855	37,223 15 10	,,	1,550 19 1
1864	5,424,184	108,483 13 8	"	2,075 11 4	8,929,870	74,415 11 8	,,	3,100 12
1865	6,402,405	128,048 2 0	,,,	2,449 18 0	4,574,823	38,123 10 6	,,	1,588 9
1866	7,820,945	156,418 18 0	6s. p. trce. 7 cwt.	2,992 14 2	3,516,186	29,301 11 0	10d. per 120 lbs.	1,220 17 1

20043.

JAMAICA.

continued.

Diagram			GIN	GE	R.					V	7001	DS.			m T			TOTAL D	TTOTAL
Finan- cial Year for.—	Quan-	Valu	e.		Rate of Duty.	Amount Duty.	of	Quan- tity.	Val	ue.		Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	of	TOTAL VAL			RECEIVI	
	Cwts.	£	s.	d.		£ s.	d.	Tons.	£	8.	d.		£ s.	d.	£	s. d		£ s	. d
1831	15,213	30,426	0	0	_	_		_	_	_		_	_		2,155,377	16	9	-	
1832	14,416	28,822	0	0	_	_			_	_		-			1,989,818	4	5	-	
1833	21,032	42,064	0	0	_	_		2,859	8,577	0	0	-	_		1,971,530	9 1	0		
1834	21,534	43,068	0	0		_		4,052	12,156	0	0				1,777,803	5	8	-	
1835	26,575	53,150	0	0	_	_		2,543	7,629	0	0				1,762,829	4 1	0	-	
1836	18,311	36,622	0	0	_	_		1,728	5,184	0	0	_	_		1,412,490	6	2	-	
1837	92,680	185,360	0	0		_		1,745	5,235	0	0	_	_		1,777,909	8	2	-	
		45,850	0	0		13211		1,243	3,729	0	0	_	_		1,527,336	12	4	43,454	2 1
1838	22,925		0	0	1s. per	745 4	0	895	2,685	0	0	1s. per	44 15	0	1,059,166		2	26,437 1	3 4
1839	14,904	29,808	U	U	cwt.	140 4	U	030	2,000			ton.							
1840	14,228	28,456	0	0	,,	711 . 8	0	1,704	5,112	0	0	-	85 4	0	807,567			20,190 1	
1841	16,376	32,752	0	0	3d. per cwt.	204 14	0	1,858	5,574	0	0	3d. per ton.	23 4	6	774,662	14	6	4,102	6
1010	10,995	21,990	0	0	CWL.			5,788	17,364	0	0	-	_		1,052,233	6	3		
1842		18,806	0	0		0.00		4,638	13,914	0	0				949,321	10	9		
1843	9,403			0				5,732	17,196	0	0	-	_		783,672	3 1	0	_	
1844	17,800	35,600	0	0				6,923	20,769	0	0	_			1,024,764		7	_	
1845	16,861	33,722			-			6,404	19,212	0	0	_	_		820,472		4		
1846	13,054	26,108	0	0	-			6,624	19,872	0	0	_	_		1,025,330		6	_	
1847	11,826	23,652	0	0	-	-		3,635	10,995	0	0	_	3.5		803,821		8	_	
1848	7,178	14,356	0	0	_	_			10,333	0	0		_		866,363		2 1	-	
1849	9,730	19,460	0	0	-	-		3. 14	16,752	0	0				847,368		8	Market	
1850	24,838	49,676	0	0	-	-		5,584		0	0				918,233		6	-	
1851	10,506	21,012	0	0	-	_		6,938	20,814	0	0		_		840,958				
1852	8,896	17,792	0	0	-	-		4,882	14,646	0	0				657,467		4	4,564 1	17
1853	5,164	10,328	0	0	-	-		4,294	12,882	0	0				788,456		8	7,582 1	
1854	6,340	12,680	0	0	. —	-		7,619	22,857	0.00	0				811,463			7,698 1	
1855	5,212	10,424	0	0	_	-		11,547	34,641	0	0		_		686,079		4		0
1856	3,113	6,226	0	0	-	-		19,760	59,280	0.00	0				870,375		7	7,903 1	
1857	3,403	6,806	0	0	-	-		25,686	77,058	0	0				868,430	71000	ó	8,343 1	
1858	6,336	12,672	0	0	-	-		14,196	42,588	0	1.00	-			759,713		1		4
1859	5,267	10,534	0	0	-	-		16,335	49,005	0	0	-					7		6
1860	9,386	18,772	0	0	-	-		17,590	52,770	0	0	_	405 0		897,985				
1861	6,337	12,674	0	0	ls. per cwt.	158 8	6	18,681	56,043	0	0	1s. per ton.	467 0	6	961,152	15	9	15,709 1	2
1862	7,512	15,024	0	0		375 12	0	32,085	96,255	0	0	22	1,604 5	0	965,884			21,084 1	
1863	7,312	14,420	0	0	22	360 10	0	31,245	93,735	0	0	,,	1,562 5	0	938,944	7 1	1	20,201 1	8
1864	6,071	12,142	0	0	"	303 11	0	31,779	95,337	0	0	"	1,588 19	0	811,654	15	9	18,348 1	0
1865	9,045	18,090	0	0	22	452 5	0	28,109	84,327	. 0	0	"	1,405 9	0	777,617	5	5	16,886 1	18
			1,000		"	757 17	0	37,116	74,232	0	0	"	1,855 16	0	999,181	9	0	21,062 1	1 1
1866	15,157	30,314	0	0	>>	757 17	0	37,110	14,202	U	U	"	1,000 10	Ü	300,101			21,002	•

Average per Island Act:—A hogshead of sugar, 1,600 lbs.; a puncheon of rum, 90 gals.; a tierce of coffee, 784 lbs.; a bag of pimento, 120 lbs.

N.B.—Export duty taken on only 9 months during 1853. The additional Export Duty commenced on 1st April 1861.

W. G. FREEMAN, Collector.

Custom House, Kingston, Jamaica, 26th November, 1866.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 2.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 2.

Lieutenant-Governor Austin to Governor Sir John P. Grant, K.C.B.

(No. 130.)

Tea

Government House, Belize, August 10, 1867. I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of 1866, and to report, thereon as follows :-

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. With exception of the following changes, which took effect on the 1st August 1866, the schedule of duties, dues, and taxes is as in the preceding year:—

increased from \$1 to \$2 per head. Cattle -\$1 to \$2 per 100 lbs. 99

25 cents to 50 cents per imp. gallon. Malt liquors and cider ,,

25 cents to 50 cents Spirits and cordials " 75 cents to \$1 per 100 lbs. Sugar, excise " $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents to 25 cents per lb.

Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z	RITISH NDURAS.
than \$5 - ,, 50 cents to \$1.50 do.	
Lumber, undressed ,, \$2 to \$3 per 1,000 feet.	
Ditto, dressed , Nil to \$4 do.	
Unenumerated articles , 3½ per cent, to 5 per cent.	
Dogs , \$1 to \$3. Swine Nil to \$1	
Swine - ,, Nil to \$1.	

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The following is a statement, as taken principally from previous reports, of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last 10 years, but for the purpose of comparison it is scarcely to be relied upon, as both 1865 and 1866 were burthened with liabilities incurred in previous years.

				Revenue.	Expenditure.
				£	£
1857				25,129	26,469
1858	-			27,848	24,127
1859				27,982	25,778
1860				32,575	30,270
1861		. 1	-	35,757	28,897
1862	-			27,299	32,175
1863				38,549	28,641
1864	-		-	31,544	28,364
1865		-		26,529	35,614
1866				27,333	31,094
					,-0-

The Interest on the Town Improvement Loan, amounting to 1,173l. 12s., and the Indian raid expenditure of 1,274l. 10s. 1d., have pressed heavily on the diminished resources of the Colony.

Public Debt.

4. The debt of the Colony on the 31st of December 1866 was 32,919l., of which 19,480l. was raised under the Act of 1863 for the improvement of the town of Belize, and 13,439l. under the Act of 1864 for defraying in the first instance the expense of introducing immigrants into the Colony.

Militia and Volunteers.

5. A militia law was passed at the close of 1866, and was of great benefit during the recent disturbances in the northern and western districts. Elsewhere, from the great unpopularity of the service, little progress has as yet been made; but, having carried through the volunteer movement (which when originated was equally distasteful) with some success, I am sanguine, if sufficient funds can be secured, that the militia of the Colony will ere long be of sufficient strength to justify considerable reliance on its stability and protective powers. Acting in harmony with the volunteers, or in a spirit of wholesome rivalry, the one branch of the service should strengthen and stimulate the other.

Public Works.

6. Not only have no public works been undertaken this year, but even those com menced in previous years have been suspended from the influence of private and local interests, and those ever-changing opinions of legislators which have rendered a settled progressive policy as impossible during the present as through the late administration. Thus in the latter we have as monuments of waste an unfinished road in a northerly direction; iron swing bridges for the town which cannot be erected, and will have to be disposed of as old iron; a canal, the completion of which is considered unnecessary; and costly lanterns and lights which cannot be used at the stations without previous heavy outlay: whilst in the former we have an iron lighthouse rusting uselessly on the ground, and a road to the westward brought suddenly to a stop, although its completion would be of immense benefit as well to the town of Belize as to the agricultural interests of the Colony. Well, indeed, may foreigners look with wonder on a possession which, after

BRITISH HONDURAS. a lapse of nearly 200 years, is without one road to its capital, has no public building of any solidity save the gaol, and gives no token of the vast fortunes which have been realized from mahogany and trade.

Legislation.

7. The 19 Acts passed during the Session of 1866 had reference to the following purposes and objects:—

4, the collection and appropriation of Revenue.

2, the deportation of Aliens.

1, the Postal service.

5, the Police and Defence services.

2, the incorporation of Trading Companies, and the amending of the law of Partnership.

2, the enrolment of deeds, and the amendment of the law in respect to Judgments in the Supreme Court.

2, the appointment of a Clerk to the House of Assembly, and the regulation of the printing of its Bills.

1, the economical care of the Belize Fire-engines.

Political Branches -- Council and Assembly.

8. However well adapted the present constitution might have been to the circumstances of the Colony when Belize was to all intents and purposes British Honduras, when agricultural pursuits were unknown, when all was one vast forest into which labourers were sent from Belize to bring down its valuable woods for export therefrom, and when the wealth and intelligence of the Colony was collected therein, and when there were no villages save those of Caribs or Indians,—nothing can be more prejudicial to the interests of the Colony, now that agriculture is making rapid strides both in the north and south, and that large investments are being made therein,—now that important townships and settlements are being established at Corosal, Orange Walk, and Indian Church in the north, and at Manatee, Sittee, Icacos and Seven Hills in the south,—and now, too, that wealthy and intelligent electors have been to a great extent superseded by uneducated petty traders, journeymen, and labourers,—than the almost exclusive possession of political power by the capital.

Impressed as the community appeared generally to be with the necessity of some change, I was not without hope that the present year might have witnessed considerable improvement; but a powerful interest thrown into the adverse scale has prevailed and the present rotten political system must yet endure for a while; it cannot last, however, the political edifice has been shaken by the attacks made upon it, and even the Belizeans must in time see that their own interests are concerned in the enforced substitution of thriving farms held by many, giving wealth and strength to the Colony at large, for pathless unemployed tracts occupied by few, giving shelter to the lawless, and draining all common resources in their guardianship.

If special proof was required of the utter inefficiency of the present form of government, nay, more, of its pernicious effect on the well-being of the Colony, what better or stronger evidence could be found than that exhibited in the minutes of the Legislature, showing as they do,—

showing as they do,—
1st. That a session already exceeding six months in length has only seen three or four hours devoted to business on each of the 56 occasions on which the House met.

2nd. That no attempt has been made to relieve the financial difficulties of the Colony or to provide for postal and other claims of a new and urgent character.

3rd. That one member has not thought fit to take his seat or to resign, whilst six

others have deserted their posts.

4th. That the House has thus been reduced from 21 to 14, or to a number far below the requirements of a quorum of 11, when sickness and unavoidable absences are taken into account.

5th. That several members have thought fit but very rarely to attend even when in Colony and in town, and with little or no private business to transact.

Ecclesiastical and Educational.

9. No changes have taken place under the above heads during the year 1866, but an Act has been passed during the present session which will enable the Lieutenant-Governor hereafter to distribute the educational grant with more justice between town and country, and the different denominations.

Imports and Exports.

10. The imports and exports during the past ten years are as follows:--

BRITISH HONDURAS

						Imports.	Exports.
						2	<u>2</u>
1857					10 -	268,692	440,272
1858		-		-	-	207,908	380,378
0	-				-	175,293	288,101
1860		-		-		200,869	315,918
1861	-					231,744	292,576
1862		-		-	-	211,357	356,389
2000	-		-		-	265,751	390,643
1864		-		-	- 1	291,144	373,197
1865	-		-			210,675	323,169
1866		-			-	169,033	277,155

The following are the imports and exports in 1865 and 1866, from and to each country with which trade has been carried on:—

	S SCOT CI	incu on .		Imports.	Exports.
				£	£
United Kingdom		_ \ \ 1865	ca	130,426	220,076
Omted kingdom		1866	-	107,734	169,013
Jamaica -		₋ \ \ 1865	-	1,877	720
Jamaica -	COLUMN TO A STATE OF	1866	100	1,347	4,000
United States		J 1865	-	64,209	34,053
Officed States	The state of	1866	-	47,461	30,344
Mexico -	Ruston	$\int 1865$	-	Nil.	3,445
MEXICO		1866	**	Nil.	4,655
Yucatan		$\int 1865$	-	2,892	26,312
		- 1866		2,333	24.694
Spanish Honduras,			-	11,268	38,562
and other Count	ries -	- 1866		10,156	44,448

Agriculture.

11. The progress made under this head during the past year has been most cheering, four sugar estates, with an aggregate cultivation of 600 acres, having been established at Sittee, and one sugar estate at Seven Hills.

The practical planters who have lately visited the Colony in large numbers for the purpose of settling thereon have given, after laborious and searching explorations, very glowing accounts of the capabilities both of the south and of the west for sugar, coffee, tobacco, corn, plantains, fruits, &c. &c. And, as far as I am myself capable of forming opinions after a recent visit to the estates above mentioned, the representations which have heen made are in no way too highly coloured. Judging only from the belt of mangrove swamps which skirted the whole coast and surrounded the town of Belize, it has long been assumed that British Honduras could be of no possible value when its mahogany works were exhausted, but facts are proving more potent than the opinions formed on wholly insufficient grounds, and although many years may yet elapse ere a state of agricultural infancy can be ripened into full vigour, there is already sufficient to justify the conclusions I have long formed and recorded in my despatches of the fitness of the Colony for farming operations.

Grants of Land.

12. The land sales during the year 1866 have only yielded 235l., but the Crown Fund has been supplemented by rents and wood-cutting licences to the extent of 236l.

Fully convinced as I am that the revenues of the Crown lands should be very largely in excess of the paltry sum of 471*l*. thus received throughout the year, my inability effectually to deal with the whole question of land tenure, a searching inquiry into which can alone recover the Crown lands most improperly occupied by the great landowners, is very mortifying; but whenever an opportunity offers I assert the rights of the Crown unflinchingly without regard to the unpopularity which it entails. Thus, I have called upon one party to disgorge $31\frac{1}{3}$ square miles, which he induced the Registrar to give him by the substitution in the primâ facie title of a "bank" of only 300 yards in

British Honduras. depth for a "mahogany location" of eight miles in depth; and I have also caused notice to be given to another party to the effect that I intend, as Her Majesty's representative, to resume and take immediate possession of the 96 square miles over which he has sought to obtain proprietary rights by means of a primâ facie title founded on a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald giving occupancy of the lands only during pleasure, and for the purpose only of cutting mahogany thereon.

The present Registrar informs me that primâ facie titles have been issued chiefly on bills of sale without any inquiry as to the right of the party selling, and not only without proof of possession, but actually in one known instance in the face of adverse possession; but how to deal generally with such transactions is most difficult to decide, as under the 8th section of the 24th Vict. cap. 18, the evidence on which primâ facie titles were

granted is not open to inspection.

In individual cases, such as those to which I have referred, and on which I had information justifying action, I need not hesitate to demand, as I have now done, copies of the evidence under the 33rd section of the 24th Vict. cap. 18; but to call for copies of the evidence on which all titles have been granted, for the express purpose of challenging any and every acquisition adverse to the strictly legal rights of the Crown, would scarcely perhaps be prudent without specific instructions.

Gaols.

13. The gaol is clean, well ventilated, and under efficient superintendence internally; but without the walls the enforcement of general discipline is anything but satisfactory. I trust, however, that the abolition of the irresponsible Board of Management which is now contemplated, and the substitution of more direct executive authority, will soon bring about a salutary change.

The greatest number of prisoners in gaol at any one time throughout the year was 101, but the average number was below 80, and the accommodation has fully sufficed at all

times.

General.

14. The health of the Colony has been unexceptionably good throughout the whole year, as well amongst all classes as in all localities; but trade has suffered severely, not only from the continued decrease of the export of mahogany, but also from the frequent

and lengthy interruptions of the postal service.

In the month of December the peace of the Colony was disturbed by the traitorous union of the Indians and Yucateean refugees long resident in the western district with the marauding bands of Indians scattered along the western and northern frontiers. gallantry and endurance of Her Majesty's troops, and their skilful employment by Brigadier-General Harley, have driven the enemy from the Colony, and have again placed us in possession of the tracts from which we were temporarily driven; but with exception of the sugar settlement at Indian Church no attempt has as yet been made by the Colonists to resume their labours. Exposed as the mahogany cutters must always be in districts so remote, and difficult of access and of combined defensive movements, depreciated too in value as mahogany has become, and expensive as its transport is proving from exhaustion of the forests close on the banks of the rivers and navigable streams, it is doubtful whether this branch of industry will be again resumed on anything approaching its former scale; and perhaps it is as well for the interests of the Colony that such should be the case, as an employment which drains off resources and capital without reproduction, as in agriculture, can only end in complete exhaustion. Already, one of the great landed proprietors has given evidence of his adhesion to such views, as well in the withdrawal of his mahogany gangs as in the gratuitous offer of lands to agricultural settlers; and should his anticipations be realized, as there is every reason to conclude they will be from the constant arrival of settlers, these splendid lands, hitherto unknown along the western frontier of the Colony, may give in their agricultural development a stability which could never have been dreamt of a few years back.

His Excellency Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN. &c. &c. &c.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

TURKS

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir John Peter Grant, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

No. 3.

(No. 90.)

My LORD DUKE,

King's House, Jamaica, August 22, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace herewith a Despatch from the No. 72, of 11 President of Turks Islands forwarding the Blue Book for the year 1866.

July 1867.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

I have, &c. (Signed)

J. P. GRANT,

4,971 17 1

(No. 72.)

SIR, Government House, Grand Turk, July 11, 1867. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

2. There has been no alteration in the sources of revenue during the past year.

General Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year 1866 was fromd. d. S. S. Imports 5,177 5 6 Light duties 932 16 0 Exports 4,022 17 10 259 Auction duties 9 6 Other sources . 5 - 1,187 8 11,579 14 6 and that for 1865 was from-**Imports** 4,955 Light duties 695 4 4 2,606 19 Exports 4 Auction duties 244 8 Other sources 1,463 8 11 9,965 6 6

Showing an increase of 1,614 in favour of the immediately past year, and the largest "general revenue" ever realized in the course of one year since the birth of the Colony in 1848.

d. The expenditure for the same period was in 1866 9,520 8 73 1865 9,141 3 11

Also showing an increase of $379 4 8\frac{3}{4} in 1866 over that$ of 1865. The balance in the public chest on the 31st December 1866 was 5,482l. 19s. 7d.

Comman Ramana

ait	export	ed from	the Color	ly du	ring	s the	yea	ar, a	imou	inte	1			F	S.	d.
0		-	10 30	-		-		-		-		-		3,488	8	6
	From		Crown la	nds	-	**		-	-				-	27	19	5
	22	rent of					-			•		-		10	0	0
	"		water from	n tan	k	-	-		14		-			10	17	0
	"	sale of a		-				-		-				. 10	0	0
	,,,	sale of s	undries		•		•		•		•			3	0	1
														3,550	5	0
	Balan	ce from	1865					e .				_		1,421	12	1

TURKS CIND CAICOS ISLANDS.

The expenditure consisted of						
For lighthouse - ,, new gaol ,, burial grounds ,, repair to buildings ,, roads and streets ,, canals and watercoun	rses	230 - 897 1,182 73	12 4 5 2 7	d. 2 0 7 1 7 8		
" water tanks and well	ls -	- 117	9	2		
" miscellaneous		1,748	14	9		
					4,754 18	0
Leaving a	balance of				216 19	1

to be carried forward for the services of the year 1867.

Imports and Exports.

216 19

5. The value	of imports	during	the year and in			-	80,549 56,090		
	Showing a	decrea	se of	N-7	bon-n		24,459	4	3

Of this 23,552l. 12s. 11d. are accounted for in diminished imports from the following countries, viz. :-

Being a decrease	of	•			23,552			
United States	•				2,343	6	2	•
Santo Domingo	-				- 17,783		1	
Great Britain		•	-	-	3,425	15	8	
					£	S.	d.	

and is fairly attributable to the cessation of hostilities in the Island of Santo Domingo, causing a limited demand for dry goods and provisions, and a diminished import to this island of the mahogany and tobacco from Santo Domingo, which has now resumed its former channel to Europe and America, viâ the Island of St. Thomas. In provisions, the diminished imports are chiefly apparent in the articles of butter, flour, fish, lard, and salted meats.

value of exports	during the ve	ar 1865	was							d. 5
,,	,,			-						
Being	also a decrease	of	J. St.				7,69)3	13	7
	,,	"		value of exports during the year 1865 was ,, , , 1866 Being also a decrease of -	,, 1866 -	,, 1866 -	,, 1866	,, 1866 54,31	,, 1866 54,310	,, 1866 54,310 4

The countries to which the falling off in exports is observable are the following:-

						£	S.	d.	
To Great Britain				Mg		1,053	14	10	
" St. Thomas	_		-		-	1,942			
" Santo Domingo		-		-		7,363	4	9	
						10,359	16	2	-

And the same reason may be assigned for this as for the decrease in imports. export of our staple has, however, both in quantity and value, exceeded that of the previous year; thus,-

Being an increase of -	679,644	10,352	
" " 1865	1,251,344	26,841	0 11
Exported in 1866	1,930,988		3 1
	Bushels Salt.	Vali	ie.

Of this increase the United States and the British North American Colonies have absorbed the greater quantity, viz.:-

TORKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

Bushels. United States in 1866 1,690,122 British North American Colonies 183,368 1,873,490 Bushels. United States in 1865 1,150,250 British North American Colonies - 67,108 1,217,358

Increase 656,132

The quantity and value of salt exported during the past five years are shown in the following table:-

Year.		Bushels.	Value.
e a	270		£ s. d.
1862	-	1,982,596	28,131 12 2
1863	-	1,434,230	21,578 5 6
1864	-	1,252,186	29,726 0 1
1865		1,251,344	26,841 0 11
1866		1,930,988	37,193 3 1

7. The falling off in the value of imports and exports does not, as will be observed by reference to the foregoing statements, injuriously affect the revenue to the extent which might be expected, as large quantities of merchandise during the year 1865 found in this Island only a temporary resting place, while passing through the warehouse free from all revenue charge in transitu to foreign markets. Payments to the labourer for landing and reshipping goods have necessarily diminished, and the circulation of money has been so far impeded, but import duties paid for articles entered for home consumption were larger by 222l. in 1866 than those paid in the previous year.

Public Works.

8. The improvements and the increased accommodation in roads and buildings, which had been progressing for the last three years, were many of them swept away by the destructive hurriance on the 30th day of September 1866, but immediate steps were taken to repair as rapidly as possible the effects of the cyclone during the remaining three months of that year. An extraordinary expenditure from the Crown Fund was in consequence necessary; nothing however approaching to permanent order could be accomplished in so short a time, and a description of those works, some of which are now approaching completion, and others in course of construction, may properly be left to the compilation of the Blue Book for 1867, and its accompanying report.

Legislation.

9. Fourteen ordinances passed the Legislative Council; of those which received Her Majesty's confirmation the following are the titles:-

No. 1. To amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1849, entitled an Ordinance to constitute a Court of Chancery within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

No. 2. To amend the Supreme Court Ordinance No. 9 of 1852. No. 3. To amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1849, entitled an Ordinance to regulate

Appeals from summary convictions.

No. 5. To amend Ordinance No. 7 of 1856, entitled an Ordinance to extend the jurisdiction of the Police and Assistant Police Magistrates of this Presidency.

No. 6. To amend an Act of the Bahama Islands passed in the sixth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, to authorize the Bishop of Jamaica to exercise Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction over the Clergy of the Bahama Islands.

No. 7. To amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1858, regulating the registration of persons entitled to vote at the election of members to serve in the Council of the Turks

and Caicos Islands.

No. 8. To amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1852 for securing the Public Health.

No. 9. To provide for the appropriation of divers sums of money to be paid from the Colonial Treasury for and towards defraying the contingent expenses of the Presidency of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1867.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No. 10. To provide a Civil list for the Turks and Caicos Islands.
No. 12. To amend the Act for regulating the relative duties of Masters and Servants, for providing for the apprenticing of children, and for other purposes.
No. 13. To authorize the removal from this Colony in certain cases of Aliens and

other persons.

No. 14. To provide for the repayment from the Colonial Treasury to the Crown Funds of divers sums of money advanced in consequence of the Hurricane of 30th September 1866, and for other purposes.

Legislative Council and Civil Establishment.

10. Of the four nominated members, who also constitute with the President an Executive Council, the junior, Mr. C. J. Stamers, died in the United States, where he had been advised to go for the benefit of his impaired health. The vacancy thus created was filled up by the appointment of the Colonial Secretary. The four elected members continued to hold their seats as in the previous year. Mr. McIntosh, who had been Colonial Secretary and clerk of the Council since the erection of these Islands into a separate Colony, also died at East Caicos, after many years suffering from a painful disease, and the vaccant appointment was conferred upon Mr. Alex. C. Lowe, who had ably performed the duties of private secretary to the three Presidents of this Colony. Mr. Sullivan, the Police Magistrate and Provost Marshal at Grand Turk, received ordination at the hands of the Bishop of Nassau, and left the Colony. Mr. Moxey, J. P., now acts in that capacity, no gentleman having yet been nominated by the Governor-in-Chief to the office since Mr. Sullivan's departure. The Reverend M. M. Dillon, M.A., entered upon his duties as rector of St. Thomas, at Grand Turk, and the Reverend W. L. Glanville as incumbent of the parish of St. George, at East Caicos. There was no other change of importance in the Civil Establishment.

Population.

11. The Registrar's returns for the past year show that there were 203 births, 147 deaths, and 39 marriages. This is the third year during which similar compilations, approaching any degree of accuracy, have been obtained; and I now give abstracts of the births and deaths in the four divisions of the Colony, viz.:-

D	IR'		-
D	IR.	ĽН	S .

		Legit	imate.	Illegi	timate.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
	(1864	30	24	14	13	81
Grand Turk	- 1865	29	38	9	10	86
	1866	36	34	15	15	100
	1864	11	7		6	27
Salt Cay -	-< 1865	12	9	7	3	31
	1866	10	11	3	4	28
	1864	6	9	2	2 2	19
East Caicos	-{ 1865	13	5	3 7 3 2 2 2 7	2	22
	1866	6	12	2	7	27
	1864	14	22	7	12	55
Lower Caicos	- < 1865	21	20	2 4	4	47
	[1866]	13	21	4	10	48
Totals		201	212	70	88	571

DEATHS IN 1866.

				Under 1 year.		From 1 to 10 years.		10 years.		From I to to 20		10 years to 20		o to 20 to 30		to 30 to 40		30 to 40 to 50		From 41 to 50 years.		m 51 60 ars.	to	m 61 70 ars.	of	70 ears.	Total.
			М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	м.	F.	М.	F.							
Grand Turk Salt Cay East Caicos Lower Caicos	1111		$\begin{bmatrix} 7\\2\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$	5 2 3 1	17 3 1 5	$\begin{vmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ \hline 7 \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\2\\ -1 \end{vmatrix}$	9 1 2	$\frac{2}{1}$	$\begin{vmatrix} 9\\1\\-1 \end{vmatrix}$	4 2 1	- 1 -	3 1 —	6 _ 1	2	5 1	5 — —	3 - 2	6 3 - 3	90 18 10 29						
Totals			10	11	26	13	7	5	12	3	11	7	1	4	7	2	6	5	5	12	147						

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

CAT	DATO	OB	DEA	MITT

From	drowning	during	the hur	ricar	ie -				-	29
,,	being kill			lo.	-		_		-	19
,,	injuries re	eceived	during o	do.	-		-	- 3 Va	-	3
,,,	dentition	and infa	ntile co	mpla	ints -		-	-	-	23
"	natural de					y		-	-	23
"	dysentery			-	-				-	22
"	inflammat		ne bowe	ls			- 5		-	11
,,	consumpt	ion		-			-	-	-	7
,,	croup		-	-	-					1
,,	asthma			-	-			-	+	1
,,	contusion			-	-		-	1	84	1
,,	ulcer	- 1	-	-	-		- Mark	-	-	1
"	dropsy		-	-	-		- 1			2
"	childbirth		-	-	-		-	-	-	1
,,	epilepsy			-	-		-	-	-	2
"	apoplexy		-	-	-		-	-	-	1
									-	
				,	Total		-	-	-	147

MARRIAGES.

	Districts.			1864.	1865.	1866.
Grand Turk			-	33	22	31
Salt Cay	-		-	6	3	5
East Caicos	-	-	-	4	4	1
Lower Caicos	-		-	14	5	2
To	tals		- '	57	34	39

The returns which I obtained from those appointed to prepare statistics with regard to the recent hurricane furnish me with the information that there were on shore and in dwellings throughout the Colony on the 30th September 1866, inmates numbering 4,391. Others were at sea, and a few either permanently removed, or temporarily resident in other places.

Education.

12. This return embraces the first nine months of the year only, all of the school buildings having been either entirely destroyed or devoted to shelter those rendered houseless by the hurricane. The total number of children on the school registers was 300, and the average attendance at the six schools was 213, including about 100 infants. The fees collected from the children amounted to $50l.\ 10s.\ 10\frac{1}{2}d.$, and the expenditure from the Public Treasury to 725l. I cannot speak of these schools in those terms of commendation which I would be glad to do, but I have every reason to hope that the ordinance lately passed by the Legislative Council will, when in operation, be productive of a change for the better, and an infusion of new life and vigour in all the departments.

13. Shipping.

SHIPPING INWARDS.

		British.	Foreign.					
YEAR.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.		
1865	346	26,471	2,040	110	21,061	771		
1866	339	30,377	1,968	123	25,591	887		

The totals show six vessels, 8,436 tons, and 44 men more in 1866 than in 1865.

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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. SHIPPING OUTWARDS.

		British.		Foreign.				
YEAR.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.		
1865	400	27,433	2,439	113	21,731	721		
1866	367	33,577	2,277	110	24,913	861		

The totals show 36 vessels less, 9,326 tons more, and 22 men less in 1866 than in 1865.

Gaols and Prisons.

14. I am happy to be able to report a considerable decrease in crime, as exhibited in the various returns now before me. The convictions in the Police Court were as follows:—

For criminal offences -
$$336$$
, civil suits - -105 441 255 77 332

The convictions, distinguishing those committed to gaol and those fined for the offences enumerated, were,—

		In 1865.			In 1866.	
	Total.	Committed.	Fined.	Total.	Committed.	Fined.
For assaults	60	12	48	50	10	40
Quarrelling and disturbing the peace -	44	10	34	60	9	51
Obscene and profane language	26	9	17	7	3	4
Larceny	34	23	11	24	10	14
Drunkenness	57	10	47	17	7	10
Abusive language	46	10	36	50	5	45
Malicious injury to property -	9		9	4	_	4
Impeding constable in execution of his duty.	4	-	4	2	-	2
Allowing hogs to run at large	5	_	5	3	_	3
Gambling	12		12	4		4
Wantonly discharging fire-arms in public street.		-		1	-	1
Breach of prison rules; 88th clause -	-	_	-	1		1
Indecent exposure of person	3	_	3	2		2
Furiously riding or driving in public street.	8	-	8	14	-	14
Seaman refusing to proceed on voyage -	5	_	5	8	_	8
Deserting lawful wife or refusing to maintain children.	7	-	7	-	-	-
Cruelty to animals	7	_	7	_		-
Obtaining goods under false pretences -	2	_	2	3		3
Breach of Revenue Laws, Ord. 11 of 1860.	_	-	-	1	- 11	1
Neglect of duty of constables			_	3	_	3
Attempting to pass counterfeit coin -	2	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	2	_	_	
Breach of market rules	ī	_	1	_		_
Throwing stones or missiles in public street.	4	_	4	-		_
Unlawfully washing self in public wells		-	_	1	_	1
Total number of civil suits	105	_		77		_
Total	441	74	262	332	44	211

The first six of these offences are believed to be perpetrated by about 150 of the most depraved of the community, who are brought before the magistrates several times in each year. In 1865 they numbered 146, and in 1866 the number is set down at 164, each individual having been convicted as shown in the following statement:—

TURES AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No.	of Persons in	1865.	A COL		No. of Convictions.	
84 were convicted	once -		TAX SH		84	
	twice				62	
77	thrice			-	42	
	four times			-	44	
	five ,,	_		-	10	
	six "	THE REAL PROPERTY.			18	
1 was convicted s		1	P**	-	7	
Other offences enu	merated in	the pre	vious 7	Cable	69	
Civil suits -	100	- ^	-	-	105	
Total			-	-	441	
No. c	of Persons in	1866.			No. of Convictions.	
132 were convicted	d once				132	
21 ,.	twice	-	-	-	42	
	thrice	-	-	-	30	
1 was convicted		-166	11-1	-	4	
Other offences enu	merated in	the pre	vious 7	Table	47	
Civil suits -	•			-	77	

The greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time in the year 1866 was 12, and those in confinement at Michaelmas 1866 numbered eight.

There were no felonies, and the total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year by the Supreme Court, the Police Court, and the Stipendiary Justice, was 57.

The aggregate number of days of confinement in gaol in 1865, was 3,873, and the number of days spent in confinement in gaol in 1866, was 1,794. The cost for maintenance of each prisoner, in the former year, was about $7\frac{3}{4}d$. per diem, and in the latter year, about $9\frac{1}{2}d$. per diem. There were no deaths in gaol during the year 1866.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

15. These continue to afford that refuge and comfort for the poor and aged, and that assistance to study and research, which I have reported from time to time during the last four years previous to 1866.

General Remarks.

- 16. This report would be incomplete were but a casual reference made to the hurricane which passed over this Colony on the 30th day of September last. In various despatches addressed to your Excellency, I have reported at length upon the effects of this fearful storm, and of the steps adopted by me to repair injuries and alleviate human suffering. But it will not be out of place to here place on record an account of the principal facts connected with that visitation, of the losses sustained, and of the help extended towards the sufferers; and I shall endeavour to do so as briefly as possible.
- 17. From the best information I have been enabled to obtain, the gale passed close to the Island of St. Thomas on the 29th September. On the same evening the sky overhead, at this Island, gave indication of atmospheric disturbance, insomuch as to induce me to refer to a gentleman who had experienced four previous hurricanes, and to inquire if the wild-looking appearance of the weather did not indicate such a storm; but neither he nor others were of that opinion. I, however, have since ascertained from a gentleman who happened to be on a plantation to the north of this Island, and also from the fishermen, that certainly on Saturday, some say on Friday, the sea around the shore assumed a muddy appearance, and that the waves, instead of coming in in a regular roll, had the appearance of disturbance, as if "boiling up." The North Creek also is said to have risen two feet on Saturday, which increased to six feet during the

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subsquent storm. A similar effect is mentioned by Colonel Reid as having occurred around the Bermuda Islands, in September 1839.

During the night, the wind increased, and the barometer, which stood at 29° 80 when I retired to rest, had sunk to 29° 40′ before daylight on Sunday morning; the wind was then blowing from north to north-east, and a heavy sea was running; the former steadily increased, and about 9 o'clock it was accompanied by a deluge of rain, which continued, with the increase of the storm, till between 12 and 1 o'clock, when both rather suddenly ceased, and the barometer marked 28° 50′.

18. From subsequent information from the coast of Santo Domingo and Nassau, I am led to the belief that the diameter of the cyclone, while passing over Turks Islands, must have been not less than 200 miles, and that its progression to the west-north-

west was at the rate of about 20 miles an hour.

- 19. We were now in the vortex of the storm, and the calm was so great, and the pressure of the atmosphere was diminished so much at Salt Cay, seven miles to the south of this Island, as to permit of a lighted candle to burn, with an elongated and sickly flame, in the open air. This lull lasted about 30 minutes; but being busily engaged at that time, I cannot record this with certainty. The hurricane then sprung up with renewed violence from the south-east, gradually drawing to the southward, but not accompanied by rain, and the barometer shortly afterwards marked its lowest at 27° 20′. Colonel Reid remarks, "In these gyrations it sometimes happens that the barometer falls as much as two inches," but in the case of the storm, I now attempt to describe, the barometer fell 2·60 inches within 12 hours. At about 1.30 p.m. the barometer began to rise rapidly, until 8 o'clock, when it had reached 29°, and afterwards more gradually, till, at 10 o'clock the same night, it had resumed its position of the previous night, at 29° 80′. These readings from my aneroid have been subsequently corroborated by those from two excellent marine barometers in different situations in town, between two and three miles distant from Government House.
- 20. Many people assert that the continuation of the storm from the southward was more violent than that from the northward. I incline to this opinion myself, but the truth is, that the force of the wind was so terrific, from both quarters, that it would be difficult to determine the point without the scientific appliances necessary for its measurement. Certain it is, however, that more damage occurred on shore during the latter than during the former half of the hurricane; the wind came down more in heavy gusts than in a continuous blow, and more houses and large trees were destroyed during the prevalence of these gusts than by the previous wind from the northward.
- 21. On the day following the hurricane I rode over the town of Grand Turk, where the inundation of the sea, or the many obstructions presented by ruined property, would permit. Here, houses and buildings of all kinds had been torn down, wholly or partially destroyed, many unroofed, some to windward, some to leeward, others twisted round at all angles than that at which they had been built; all sorts of lumber and furniture scattered about or lying in heaps; roads and salt ponds in some places an unbroken sheet of water; other roads and streets cut into, and many so blocked up with débris as to be passable only with great difficulty. Of public buildings, the lighthouse keepers dwellings, the poor house, the gaol, the Council chambers, the armoury, the public schools, the quarantine hospital, and Government House, were either wholly or partially destroyed, or greatly injured.
- 22. The Islands of Grand Turk and Salt Cay mainly run in length from north to south. On the eastern shore, coral reefs extend seaward for a considerable distance, and cliffs of limestone, of from 40 to 60 feet high, protect the Islands from the almost constant rough action of the waves raised by the prevailing east winds. On the western shore, and extending from the sea, landwards, about 100 to 150 yards, a ridge of sand, varying from five to 12 feet in height, has accumulated, and having, in the course of years, been augmented by collections of stone, wood, and the usual traffic of man, has presented, in many places, a passable foundation; and on these ridges the best buildings in the Colony have from time to time been erected. Many proprietors have also improved their front lots, by building stone sea walls or abutments, and filling in as solidly as possible the spaces between these and their dwellings. At Grand Turk and Salt Cay not one of these protections remain uninjured; and at the latter place nearly all have been completely demolished. Behind these ridges the salt pond and pans extend, and still further inland, and on scattered rising spots of ground, the labourers' dwellings are principally built.

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Having thus endeavoured to convey some idea of the physical features of these two Islands, it will be understood what utter ruin must have been the inevitable consequence AND CAICOE if the wind, during the cyclone, had gone further round to the westward than it did. Even as it was, the violence and height of the waves were such as to make a clear breach in three several places through the ridge at Salt Cay, and rolling over the salt pans, they were met by the ocean waters, which had been forced from the eastward through a creek situated at the south-east end of the Island. The centre of that Island was, therefore, for a time, one turbulent sheet of water, and it is most wonderful that only five lives were lost there, amidst the almost universal wreck. On visiting the church and several of the buildings situated on this ridge, I saw distinctly on the limewashed walls the highest mark of the risen water, and measured it at four feet from the floor of the police cells, which are on a level with the principal road running between the ridge and the salt pans. All the low buildings, and the ground stories of the higher houses, were washed through by the sea, and the consequent demolition of furniture and clothing was large. Here, as at the other islands, the demand for our staple was, during last year excessive; and very many of the labourers were thus enabled to help themselves, while the really destitute were fed to the best of my ability from the soup kitchens. That at Salt Cay I visited, and found the food prepared for these poor people good and wholesome. At East Harbour, I observed similar scenes of ruin and destruction of buildings, wind machines, and other property, which had been presented to me at Grand Turk and Salt Cay. The town there, however, is much better sheltered from any effects of the sea than that at either of the other Islands, being situated on the inner side of the harbour, which is protected on the east and south-east by Dove Cay and Long Cay.

23. Having appointed at each of the Islands public officers and other gentlemen to make a house-to-house visitation, in order to put me in a position to forward to Her Majesty's Government as correct an account of all particulars connected with this catastrophe as could be procured, I have been enabled, from time to time, to report what information I thus received; and, so far as I can judge from personal observation, the following is as reliable a summary of the injury sustained and loss of life, as could under all the circumstances be prepared.

SUMMARY of the Losses and Injuries sustained in the Turks and Caicos Islands from the Hurricane on Sunday, 30th September 1866.

		No. of Dwelling-houses destroyed.	No. of Out-houses destroyed.	No. of Tanks in- jured.	No. of Inmates.	No. of Inmates killed.	No. of Inmates seriously injured.	No. of Inmates slightly injured.	No of Salt-houses destroyed.	Horses killed.	Mules killed.	Donkeys killed.	Horned Cattle killed.	Goats killed.	Pigs killed.	Wind Machines destroyed.	Foreign Vessels destroyed.	Colonial Vessels destroyed.	Open Boats destroyed.	Lives lost at Sca.	Bushels of Salt destroyed.	Other Property destroyed.	Estimated Value of Houses damaged and destroyed, as well as other Property lost.
Grand Turk -	1	335	385	147	2,225	19	22	138	G	2	6	1	9	7	14	8	1	5	24		480,500	Lumber, Clothing. not ascer-	£ 38,423
Salt Cay -	-	98	69	66	702	4	-	13	4		3	-			-	3	7	3	12	29	349,650	Lun Cloth not a	21,328
East Harbour -	-	78	29	15	437		-	22	1			-	1	-		8	1	2	8) (152,200	es, (es, lity n	6,080
Leeward Caicos	-	206	119		1,627	2	-	11	-			2	22	-	25	-	-	17	48	13	-	Furniture, Shingles, Quantity r	10,029
		717	602	228	4,391	25	22	184	11	2	9	3	32	7	39	19	9*	27	92	42	982,350	Sh Sh	75,860*

* Value of Foreign Vessels not included.

24. On the 2nd October I appointed a relief committee at Grand Turk, and branch committees at Salt Cay, and East Harbour, and established soup kitchens for the support of the really destitute, employing the able-bodied in removing the wreck and in repairing roads and enclosure walls. I also gave assistance to the salt pond proprietors by opening their canals to the sea, and in some few instances in replacing the injured dwellings of the needy on their old foundations. The soup kitchens I supported for two months from Crown Funds, until the several relief committees were put in funds from abroad, when the duty devolved upon them.

25. It is now my pleasing duty to record the generous donations contributed by Her Majesty's Government, by friends in Great Britain and in the sister Colonies, and by the charitable in foreign countries, and the manner of distribution or disbursement up to this date. Many of these have subscribed from their abundance, others have given out of their straitened circumstances, and while some were actually suffering from the same or equally distressing calamity, yet they failed not to nobly assist in the pleasing duty of clothing the destitute, feeding the hungry, and housing the houseless. The grateful prayer of all here is "May God and man succour them in the time of their adversity."

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Dr. RE	LIEF COMMITTEE in account with RELIEF FUND.			(CR.
To cash advanced from the Crown Funds by his Honour President Moir, and subsequently refunded from the Colonial Chest under au- thority of Ordinance No. 14 of 1866	£ s. d. £ s. d. By cash paid for food and clothing for distribution among the poor an maintenance of soup kitchens Cash paid for labour in repairin public buildings, streets, canals, &c.	d -1,246 2 g		8.	d.
To Antigua—Drafts - Premium	208 0 0 3 12 8 3 12 8 3 12 8 3 12 8 3 12 8 4 Cash paid for relief to the destitute medical aid, and expenses attendin maintenance of soup kitchens, &c	e, g	2,160	3	6
Inagua—Cash, provisions, &c ,, Bangor, U.S.—Cash and clothing - ,, Barbados—Drafts -	31 9 11	·	269	6	1
Premium Provisions Lumber, shingles, and nails	1 5 1 same Cash paid import duties, viz., tota amount of duties - Less, paid from auction		9	0	0
,, Bermuda—Cash and drafts - Premium -	929 6 4 Refunded - 298 3 28 8 2 48 15 0	6		15	8
Provisions Lumber	6 5 0	•		1.0	•
" Cuba (Cienfuegos)—Draft - " DEMERARA:	— 52 13 7 ,, Labour—landing, hauling up, &continuous lumber and shingles ,, Cash paid for nails and hinges from	e. - 102 16 n	5		
Premium	24 19 1 51 9 3 0 2 2		5,592	11	6
" GREAT BRITAIN: Birmingham—Draft Edinburgh—Cash Porto-bello—Cash	From Barbados, 11,429 ft. lumbe 17 17 0 50 M. shingles, and 10 bag 66 13 6 nails - 30 0 0 From Wilmington, U.S., 7,098 ft lumber -	rs - 100 10 t.			
Glasgow—B.E., notes	30 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	- 6 5 s, e	ő		
" Grenada—Drafts Premium	240 0 0 kitchens - Amount estimated for 21 woolle jackets on hand -	- 350 3	0	19	7
" Guadaloupe—Drafts, 3,000 frs. " Halifax—Drafts - Premium -	- 244 16 0 115 0 0 , Cash paid for lumber purchased a 465 0 0 , Cash paid for lumber purchased a auction and distributed - , Ditto for 12 bags corn distributed a			14	3
" Hayti—Draft and provisions " Havana—Cash " Her Majesty's Government—Provi-		d _	35		0
sions, clothing, &c., per H.M.S. "Cadmus" Jamaica—Cash New York, U.S.—Cash	546 10 6 10 0 0 , Balance in hand at this date	_	1,088		
Provisions - " Nevis—Cash and B. note - Premium -	36 5 3 10 11 8 0 5 3				
" Porto Plata—Provisions, &c " Ragged Island, N.S.—Draft - " St. Christopher—Draft -	- 10 16 11 - 35 0 0 - 38 0 0 120 0 0				
Premium - ,, St. Croix—Draft - ,, St. Thomas—Cash - Provisions, clothing, &c.	3 18 0 ————————————————————————————————————				
"St. Vincent—Drafts Premium	104 3 4 2 1 8 106 5 0				
" St. Lucia—Draft Premium	27 8 6 0 11 0 27 19 6				
"Tobago—Draft Premium	50 0 0 1 12 6 155 12 0 51 12 6				
Fremium	2 5 0 — 157 17 0 — 32 5 10 — 44 0 0				
" Cash, sales of lumber and shingles	£10,010 7 1		£10,010	7	1
" Balance brought down	- 1,088 16 6			R .	

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26. In addition to the donations enumerated, very many gifts of clothing and food were received from Bermuda, Antigua, Nassau, and England, and privately distributed to the destitute by the several recipients; and the more pressing needs of the people having been, to a great extent, relieved, I recently held a meeting of the central relief committee, at which it was resolved that the balance now in hand should be devoted, 1st, to the purchase of a large quantity of shingles; 2ndly, to assisting the poorest in the erection of their small dwellings; and 3rdly, to the relief of any case of distress which may arise during or may continue till the approaching winter. The salt pond proprietors at Salt Cay and East Harbour have all, I believe, received a portion of the aid thus placed at my disposal, through the central relief committee; but few, if any, except the poor and the labourer at Grand Turk, have participated in the generous donations from abroad. The time and labour which many of these gentlemen who compose the central relief committee have given in attendance on the committee, and in the distribution of the lumber, food, and clothing, have been therefore in the strictest sense gratuitous, and such conduct is well deserving of the approval accorded to it by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

27. It has been my practice since my arrival here to request each minister of the several religious denominations resident within the Colony to be good enough to furnish me with a short report of what may be his personal experience of the moral and social condition generally of the inhabitants, and of the religious and moral state of the denomination over whose spiritual concerns he is appointed to watch. To my request this year I have received replies from the three Episcopalian clergymen, and from the Wesleyan and Baptist Missionaries. The report of the latter, and those from the rectors of St. Thomas and St. George, are all very interesting, and so far as my personal observation extends, give a truthful and vivid picture of this community with respect to the subjects referred to; but the letters are rather voluminous to be embodied in, so I annex them

along with the others to, this report.

28. Your Excellency will observe, on perusing these documents, that their authors consider the social and moral condition of the people in anything but a healthy state, and the influx of a class of political refugees from St. Domingo and Haiti during the past two years to have been most deleterious in its effects, as poisoning the moral atmosphere and ruining many, especially the young, of our community. The excessive use of alcoholic drinks—the crowding large numbers of people of all ages and of both sexes into small and unsuitable dwellings—the absence of good example, especially in a want of reverence for the sanctity of the Sabbath, and attendance on the public worship of Almighty God, by those placed high in the social scale, but who are in daily intercourse with the people—all call for a thorough reformation, and necessity exists for bringing, not merely religious principles and teaching to bear upon the people, but the powerful agency of

good example.

One gentleman remarks, "I believe the God of one class of this community is "Mammon' (with some honourable exceptions), and the religion of the others, as far "as I can judge, consists more in the demonstration of feeling under the influence of "a species of religious" (?) "excitement to which in one form or another they appear "attached, than in the experimental knowledge and practice of the grand principles of the Gospel." Most of the ministers, however, speak well of the attendance of children at the Sabbath schools, and the rectors of St. Thomas and St. John of increased numbers in their congregations and communicants. I can myself bear testimony to the truth of this, in so far as the church and Sabbath school attached to the rectory of this Island is concerned, but when one is told that not more than one-third of our population is found in all our places of worship on any Sabbath day, it must be acknowledged that, either in the teaching or in the taught, there is something amiss, which we must hope to discover, and to which, by the help of God, a remedy must be applied if we expect to see that amount of moral and religious progress so necessary to the present well-being and future welfare of any people.

29. Independently of those who were killed or subsequently died from the effects of injuries received during the hurricane, one chief cause of mortality was the great scarcity of rain, and the compulsion to partake of brackish water, superinducing dysentery and other disease of the bowels. A considerable amount of property in mules and cattle was also lost from the same cause. In other respects the health of the Colony was good, and had the severe losses by the hurricane not been sustained, the material prosperity of the

Colony would once more have been my theme.

His Excellency the Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALEX. W. MOIR,
President.

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Sub-Encl. I in No. 3.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Rev. D. L. D. KERR, B.M., to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Baptist Mission House, Grand Turk,

March 3, 1867. DEAR SIR.

In reply to your communication of the 20th ultimo, which I have the honour to acknowledge, requesting me to furnish his Honour the President with a report on the three mentioned conditions of the general inhabitants of this Colony to the best of my knowledge, and particularly with regard to the denomination over which I have the ministerial charge, I beg leave to state that as it would be undertaking more than I could satisfactorily perform in so short a time and in so concise a manner as may be desirable, I could not offer anything like a report, but quite willing I am to state the following facts touching the subjects of inquiry.

I am sorry to say, in the first place, judging from the stand-point of observation, that no very glowing statement can be given with regard to either condition. I see around me plenty of religious formula, but truth is sadly wanting. As to the poor, they have the Gospel preached unto them, and the rich are not in want, a few good examples of virtue and piety are set before them, but we are not satisfied with the effect produced. To step in the right direction is perhaps to direct special attention to the education of the rising population of the Colony, as in them may be realized what was lost in their fathers. lost in their fathers.

As for morality, we see it associated with religion in all cases, and it may be found sometimes to exist without, but instances of this kind are rare amongst us. Where the dominant principle is religion we look for moral purity. It is in the absence of this principle that the corners of our streets are full of intoxication, and language too obscene for the wise and good to utter fills the air with its horrid

In the course of a lecture delivered by him a few months since before the "Social and Moral "Institute," the acting police magistrate remarked, "No one who has been for any length of time a "member of our community but must be aware how fearfully habits of intemperance have increased "among our labouring population, and among those too who don't consider themselves labourers during the last 15 or 20 years. At one time it was a rare thing to meet a case of drunkenness in our streets, now our police court tells a very different tale, and seven-eighths of the convictions which take place there (at the police court) originate directly or indirectly from the fearful habit of intemperance which now prevails among our people. There were at one period very few rum shops, now they have been established in every direction, even at the back Salina where they were formerly unknown. I regret to say that every facility is afforded to open places of this kind, the demoralization of our people being of no consideration where a few pounds can be obtained by them. Mark "the dangerous effects the free use of alcoholic drinks has had on the reputation and character of the majority of our young men. A gentleman who does not live a hundred miles from here informed me not long since that he had been for some time past in want of a confidential clerk, one of industrious and sober habits, and he declared that of all the applicants for the situation, his own relative included, to whom he would have given the preference if found worthy, there were only two that he can be only in the complex and one of these two was a white and the other a black lad and "would have been willing to employ, and one of those two was a white and the other a black lad, and this too he observed was not any doubt as to their honesty, but solely in consequence of the baneful habit they had acquired in drinking liquor and getting drunk at night." Add to this the midnight revelry of numbers hurrying themselves to a premature grave.

There are instances not a few where the marriage vow is set at defiance or the conjugal tie put asunder for a mere trifle. It is painful to refer to the numerous cases which have come under our notice of applicants for infant dedication and baptism where the fathers are utterly unknown even by notice of applicants for infant dedication and baptism where the fathers are utterly unknown even by the mothers themselves; and these are infants of every shade of colour, emanating it would seem from every grade of society. My official return for the past year shows great leanness on this very account. It has also come to our turn very often to meet with persons who having indulged in the Adamic sin resort to the marriage contract either to cover the shameful deed, or as a sort of compensation the most convenient for their gross violation of the law of God and the common rule of propriety. Why is all this in a Christian Colony? Some say the influx of foreigners with habits of vice peculiar to themselves, and quite out of keeping with English taste, has done all to demoralize the masses. Be it so. But in my opinion, the evil like a deceitful fire had been long smouldering and only needed a little fanning and fuel to increase the flame; hence what before was done in a corner is now done openly, and when once the immoral have lost all shame, all hope seems likewise lost. Strangers have often and when once the immoral have lost all shame, all hope seems likewise lost. Strangers have often had cause to express their disappointment in the conduct of a people so long in the enjoyment of civil rights and liberties, so long under implements of moral culture and the restraints of the Christian religion. It has been correctly observed that the wandering situation of the labouring inhabitants of the Colony since the late hurricane has been productive of an immense amount of moral evil. The demoralizing influence of some has no doubt told most fearfully on others, and especially has the youthful mind been exposed to impressions the most pernicious. This unexpected breaking up and distribution of households must have been followed by wholesale wreck and ruin of every moral principle amongst the unfortunate victims of distress, were it not that some were favoured to find an expected the result that the result that the result the result that the result that the result that the result the result that the result asylum beneath the roofs of God-fearing men, more ready to aid by good examples and precepts than to hinder their progress, or to take advantage of their necessity. But I must add, that if the moral safety of the Colony be a question of great moment, and if the most alarming results might well be feared from the mal-circumstances of these people, who are to this day more than five months without a shelter of their own, and trust upon their friends, many of them who cannot much longer endure a collision so inimical to their peace and comfort, it is absolutely necessary to furnish separate dwellings, however small, with as little delay as possible. It is always so much better and easier to prevent an evil than to cure one.

It is gratifying to state that his Honour the President has exerted himself in every direction, especially since the hurricane, where it was likely to promote the moral well-being of the Colony, and not less hearty and responsive have been the efforts of other godly men his coadjutors.

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As for society, it appears to me a fine building because the painter has passed his brush over it; but experience tells me the foundation is good but the body insecure. It is of the first importance then to examine with a skilful eye the whole social fabric, and supplant the decayed uprights with others of a sounder description if they can be found. It strikes me, sir, that if social order is to be maintained amongst the different grades, and the rule of progression is to be observed with regard to each individual member of society, the main point is to discriminate according to character. Strict attention should be paid to this as the standard measure. But when one man will entertain low opinions of another and do his best to propagate them in a secret way, only for the sake of amusement or revenge, without regard to the interest of his neighbour, he plays a part with the Philistines' foxes with Samson's firebrands at their tails. Or if one is envious of another's better standing in public opinion, and fearing his turn will come too late, employs cunning and falsehood to effect his neighbour's overthrow, he is again the celebrated Haman, who contrived a gallows for Mordecai, but finds at last his own neck slipped within the halter. These things cannot be favourable to society; yet in this small Colony they exist in too many instances, and when the weapons of secret rebellion shall cease to stir up anger, and men everywhere contend openly and fearlessly for God and His truth, and the good and upright, instead of abandoning the profligate, bend to the task of reforming them, then shall we enjoy the blessing of uninterrupted social harmony

Comparing the present with the past, however, it must be admitted that some change for the better has taken place in this direction. During my 10 years' residence in this Colony I have seen our social standing at a much lower ebb than it is to-day. Evidently a more judicious administration than we can remember in former times has been crowned with much success in this respect.

Now, with regard to the denomination over which I preside, I can say nothing but what might apply to all religious denominations of the day, and therefore may not be able to furnish you with further

information on this point than what may already be known.

It will not be expected that the 300 persons who constitute our churches in this Colony are decidedly consistent with their principles because Baptist by profession. On the contrary, we meet up now and then with a Judas and a Simon Magus too, and a false Peter is never wanting to deny the truth when brought to the test, but as the wise man saith, "A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod "for the fool's back," the proper exercise of church discipline is indispensable. It is by this means we preserve the purity of our principles, and it may be for this reason we advance so slowly in numbers. Our congregations receive nothing from us but the simple truths of the Bible, and the work of conviction in the mind and referention in the lives of some is no doubt credwelly graine and work of conviction in the mind and reformation in the lives of some is no doubt gradually going on. When it is remembered that we have to work upon that portion of the inhabitants chiefly whose lot has not been cast in the same mould which has fitted others, their fellow colonists and countrymen, for positions on the platform of polite literature and society, the wonder is, not that we have done so little, but that we have done so much.

Since the days of slavery an almost miraculous change has taken place in the religion and morals of the Baptists, and many besides who were not Baptists who could not rise beyond the fetters that bound them. But a little more than 30 years have passed away since then, and if the highest objects of life have been so far realized, who can tell what the next 30 years will bring forth. But there is one drawback, sir, and a very serious one, the carelessness of our youth to improve their minds, and consequently their loose manners and morals. Our school libraries are always at their command, but poor use is made of what they find in them. The Government schools, which are unsectarian in their principle, ought to be a great help to them, especially if these schools are under the management of strictly moral and religious instructors. Then we have in some places a library with plenty of good reading for the public benefit, and withal, the duties of religion are most earnestly enforced in our Sunday schools and Bible meetings, and yet they seem to think as little of to-morrow as though it

would never come.

With regard to the condition of the Caicos, I have only to call your attention to the following extract from report of Reverend Mr. S. Kerr, who has recently returned from a missionary tour through that Island in accordance with special instructions from the Baptist Missionary Committee in England:—"We cannot boast of much progress since my departure as a resident in that island, which "may not be expected with the present local means of spiritual improvement and an occasional visit from the missionary at Grand Turk, yet we have every reason to believe, that judging from the religious state of things generally, they are not far in the rear of their neighbours or other islands in this Colony. The great want among these people, in my opinion, is education. This is lamentable, "as numbers of the rising generation are growing up without the means of diverting their attention to anything better than grovelling habits, as must be the case where education is wanting. With regard to morality, I could add that the huddling together of several families in small camps since the hurricane, which would barely accommodate a family of three or four persons before, cannot fail to result in immorality, except among those whose ruling principle is the love and fear of God.

Trusting that what I have written will meet the object in view,

A. C. Lowe, Esq. Colonial Secretary.

I am, &c. D. L. D. KERR. (Signed)

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

RECTOR of the Parish of St. Thomas to Colonial Secretary.

SIR. Grand Turk, March 9, 1867. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, in which you request a report from me, for the information of his Honour the President, as to my opinion of the moral and social condition, generally, of the inhabitants of the Colony, based upon my personal

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knowledge and observation, and more particularly in regard to the religious and moral state of the denomination to which I am privileged to minister.

I would beg to say in reply, that while my knowledge of the Colony may be said only to date from the 15th of last April, when I entered on my ministerial duties at this place, yet an acquaintance with the West Indian colonies for a period extending over nearly 30 years will, I humbly trust, permit me to form a just and fair opinion in relation to those matters upon which information has been requested,

and that while I would speak kindly I must speak faithfully.

I do not then think that the moral and religious condition of the people contrast favourably with the inhabitants of the larger and older colonies, while I must add that the means afforded by the Government, and the pains and efforts of the Executive for the religious and moral education of the youth and for the social advancement of the people generally, together with the means of grace available through the various religious denominations, exceeding in number, when contrasted with the population, those

of the colonies referred to; yet the same good effects are not discernible to mortal eye.

This sad state of things is, however, easily explained.

For some years past the Colony has been deluged by a host of political refugees from St. Domingo and Haiti, who, whether male or female, have been for the most part individuals depraved in morals, vicious in habits, and utterly destitute of all moral and religious restraint, consequently irreligion, debauchery, profligacy, and all manner of vice have marked their course in our midst, proving fatal to

many, poisoning the moral atmosphere, and ruining especially the young of our population.

Would that I could pause here, while accounting for the low state of morals and religion in our midst, but the assimilative power of example, which acts the strongest and steadiest upon the instincts of our natures, tells with giant force upon the coloured population of the West Indian colonies and with ourselves among the rest. It is in vain we labour for the glory of God and the good of immortal souls of all without distinction of creed, unless those in authority and who are more immediately brought into daily connexion and intercourse with our people, set before them a moral and religious example, more especially a reverence for the sanctity of the Sabbath and an attendance on the public worship of Almighty God. We require particularly in a small community a strong reformation in this respect, when it is taken into consideration that not more than one-third of the population are to be found in all our places of worship on any sabbath day.

In regard to the Church of England, over whose congregation I have the honour and privilege to preside, I can say in humble gratitude to Almighty God, to whom I would desire to ascribe all the praise, that our members and general attendants will contrast equally and favourably with those of other denominations. 495 attend public worship; of this number 165 are communicants, 36 having been added within the last seven months. The average congregation may be set down at about 220. The parish church has sittings but for 280. It is right here to say that there are many others calling themselves members of the Church of England and even communicants, but as they have never attended

public worship during my incumbency I have not included them in this return.

I can, of course, draw no contrast in relation to the state of the congregation in previous years, and if I even could, delicacy of feeling would prevent it. I am told, however, by others competent to judge that a great improvement in all matters has taken place, and giving utterance to my own feelings and experience I feel I have reason from my heart to thank God and take courage for the

I have, &c.
ed) M. M. Dillon,
Rector, St. Thomas' Parish. (Signed)

Alex. C. Lowe, Esq.,

Colonial Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

INCUMBENT, PARISH of St. GEORGE, to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sir, East Harbour, Caicos Island, March 14, 1867. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th February DEAR SIR, last.

It would afford me considerable pleasure to comply in each particular with the President's request respecting the social, moral, and religious status of the Colony, did my time of residence in the presidency (which has been little over six months) warrant me in hazarding an opinion, and especially as the greater portion of that period has been spent (owing to the late hurricane) in the parish of another clergyman whose longer residence and more extensive experience in the West Indies will another clergyman whose longer residence and more extensive experience in the West Indies will doubtless qualify him to give more satisfactory information. However, as it is his Honour's desire that my opinion should be given as far as my "personal knowledge and observation" may enable me to form one, I shall gladly do so, but must confine myself principally to the East Harbour settlement, it being the only part of my parish I have had the opportunity of visiting.

As to the social aspect of the question I must confess to being very much disappointed in my expectations. I had hoped, at least, to have found in a professing Christian community an average regard for the sacred obligations of civilized society. I deeply regret, however, being obliged to state that the majority of the people seem to me to have no idea of the nature of those obligations or the extent of axil the neglect of them inevitably bring upon the community.

extent of evil the neglect of them inevitably bring upon the community.

As to the second point, seeing there can be no really perfect social system without a corresponding scriptural morality, the absence of the one implies the absence of the other also. Profound indolence, drunkenness, and a dishonesty which appears to be an inneal principle are the chief characteristics of the labouring class; in these particulars, however, I have good reason to believe East Harbour will compare favourably with Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and the other settlements of the Caicos Islands. I could refer to other matters too painful for the Christian minister to contemplate, which go to show the necessity for

TURKS

AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

a thorough moral reformation, and also the necessity there exists for bringing not merely principles to

bear upon the people, but the more powerful agency of good example.

As to the state of religion: If I must speak the naked truth before Him who knows the hearts of all men, I cannot refrain from saying that I believe the God of one class of this community is "mammon" (with some honourable exceptions), and the religion of the others as far as I can judge consists more in the demonstration of feeling under the influence of a species of religious excitement (to which in one form or another they appear attached), than in the experimental knowledge and practice of the grand principles of the Gospel. Every effect has a cause, and doubtless this state of things is traceable to some sufficient cause, but as this is a point on which there may be difference of opinion, I think I must for the present retain my own and endeavour to test its correctness by further observation.

I trust the shortness of my residence in the Colony will be sufficient apology for the vagueness of this

I have, &c. WM. LOWE GLANVILLE, Incumbent of St. George.

The Honourable Alex. C. Lowe, Esq., Colonial Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

RECTOR OF ST. JOHN to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sub-Encl. 4 in

Turks and Caicos Islands, Parish of St. John. THE assistant police magistrate having kindly allowed me to refer to the police records of Salt Cay (the only settlement in this parish), I find but one person calling himself a churchman has been convicted by the justices of the peace, and that one on two occasions, one of "assault" and the other of "abusive language;" both cases were settled by the magistrates.

The number of scholars in the Sunday school increased during the year, and the attendance has been satisfactory in spite of the hurricane.

The number of average attendants at church has been quite as good as in former years, while the number of monthly partakers of the Lord's Supper has been greater than in many years past.

The awful hurricane of 30th September last will long be remembered among us, I hope and think it

will be the means by Divine blessing of making many of us live looser to this world and more attentive to things unseen.

9th April 1867.

(Signed)

Jos. C. Ashwood, Rector, Parish of St. John.

Sub-Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

Rev. THOMAS BATE, W.M., to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sub-Encl. 5 in

Wesleyan Mission House, April 10, 1867. In compliance with the request of his Honour the President, conveyed to me by yours of the 28th February, I beg to state I have nothing to say on the condition of the community generally, either morally, socially, or religiously.

Respecting those under my own pastoral care, I have every reason on the whole to be grateful concerning their present spiritual condition. Their attention to the means of grace and the attendance of the children at the Sabbath school are very praiseworthy, especially when their privations during the past six months are considered; while their patience, resignation, and calm submission to the will of

Heaven have been very noticeable features in their character and conduct.

Neither do we think this has been the effect of cold, stoical indifference, but rather a scriptural, deep-seated conviction of the mind that the Judge of all the earth has done right. In many instances

those afflictive events have been sanctified to the benefit of our people.

Honourable Alex. C. Lowe, Colonial Secretary, Grand Turk.

Yours, &c. (Signed) THOMAS BATE.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.

BRITISH GUIANA. No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Mundy to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 125.)

My LORD DUKE, Government House, Demerara, September 10, 1867. I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866, and beg to make the following observations thereon.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1866 was 304,816l. 19s. 9d., against 309,371l. 11s. 1d. collected in 1865. There was a decrease on import duties, including wines and spirits, of 5,050l. 7s. 2d., 30

BRITISH GUIANA. and under four other heads of 2,142l. 0s. 5d., and an increase under eight heads of 2,637l. 16s. 3d. The expenditure for 1866 as compared with the previous year shows an increase of nearly 10,000l.; the principal increase has been under the heads of Gaols, Miscellaneous, Police, Public Works, Public Debt and Interest on Public Debt, and Education. There has been a decrease of 3,869l. 4s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}d$. under the head of Immigration, owing to the decreased demand for Immigrants in 1866, and under the head of Riot Compensation Bonds 5,031l. 13s. 0d., which were fully redeemed in 1865.

Public Debt.

In 1866 the amount of the Public Debt was 571,166l. 13s. 4d., against 559,516l. 13s. 4d. in the previous year; the increase has been under ordinance 27 of 1864 for the Improvement of Villages, 12,500l., and ordinance 24 of 1864 for Immigration and other purposes, and for the introduction of Liberated Africans, 63,100l.; the decrease has been under the heads of Loan for Immigration Purposes, ordinance 2 of 1845, 3 of 1857, and 29 of 1862, 7,000l.; Loan for establishing a Bonded Warehouse, 1,250l.; loan ordinances 16 of 1865 and 8 of 1857 for Passages of Immigrants, 2,200l.; loan ordinances 5 of 1860 and 17 of 1862 for Introduction of Chinese Immigrants, 38,000l.; bounties for Coolies for re-indenture for further Industrial Residence, 15,000l.

The Colony is also guarantee for loans borrowed by the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown to the amount of 89,479l. 3s. 4d.

Public Works.

The chief expenditure has been for the hospitals of Demerara and Berbice, the sea wall, and St. Swithin's dam, and for police lock-ups; the expenditure for 1866 was 30,224l. 6s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$. against 24,490l. 15s. 4d. in 1865.

Legislation.

During the year 1866 21 ordinances were enacted; two ordinances were passed for the increase of the indenture fee and for payment of same to the immigrants. Ordinance No. III. amended the law of evidence on criminal trials; ordinance No. IX. provided for punishment of offences against the Post Office; ordinance No. X. altered and amended in certain respects the Administrator-General's Bill of 1865; and ordinance No. XVII. provided for consolidating the various loans of the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown guaranteed by the Colony.

Education.

Under this head there was an increase of 1,500l. 8s. 11d. over the year 1865, principally for repairs of schools and increase of salaries to masters. The average attendance of children for 1866, 6,615, shows an increase as compared with 1865 of 794; there was also an additional school; the number of schools in 1866 was 118 against 117 in 1865.

Imports and Exports.

The value of goods imported was 1,530,674l. 15s. in 1866, against 1,359,292l. 3s. 0d. in 1865.

The value of exports in 1866 was 2,170,967l. 7s. 0d. against 2,089,639l. 1s. 0d., in 865. The chief increase was in the value of sugar, 101,095l. 0s. 0d. There was an increase under the heads of cotton, 1,995l. 7s. 0d.; non-enumerated goods, 7,608l. 18s. 0d., and under 44 other heads of 24,405l. 18s. 0d. The decrease was under the item of balata, 1,035l. 1s. 0d.; cocoa and coffee, 927l. 19s. 0d.; rum, 650l. 10s. 0d.; and timber (hardwood), 20,309l. 17s. 0d.; and under 43 other items of 24,992l. 10s. 0d.

Gaols and Prisons.

The expenditure for 1866 was 10,651l. 1s. 5d. against 9,370l. 5s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. in 1865. The increase is owing to the larger number of prisoners confined during the year 1866.

In conclusion, I would beg to observe that the health of the inhabitants generally has been fair. The immigrants seem satisfied and contented with their condition, each year shows improvement both in the dwellings and hospitals provided for them; greater care

throughout the Colony is shown to promote their health and comfort, and on the whole there appears to be every reason to congratulate the Colony on its advancement and increased prosperity during the past year.

BRITISH GUIANA.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

I have, &c. (Signed)

ROB. M. MUNDY.

&c. &c. &c.

BAHAMAS.

BAHAMAS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor RAWSON, C.B., to his Grace the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 165.)

My LORD DUKE, Government House, Nassau, November 9, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit my Report upon the Blue Book of this Colony for

the year 1866.

2. I have appended to it a connected, and tolerably complete, account of the disastrous hurricane which swept these Islands on the 1st Ocober of that year, showing its course from St. Thomas, where it was first observed, to a considerable distance north of the Bahamas, and describing the havoc which it committed on the several Islands.*

* Not printed.

3. The course is derived from forty-two observations, which I have been enabled to collect; and as it is seldom that an occasion offers of obtaining trustworthy returns from so extensive an area, and as this visitation will form an era in the history of the Colony, I have not considered it out of place to add a detailed account of it, and of the City of Nassau, in which its ravages were most severely felt, to my usual annual

4. As, however, the Meteorological Returns, with the table and chart compiled from them, upon which this portion of my Report is founded, would scarcely form an appropriate addition to it, I have put them up in a separate packet, which I request may be forwarded with the letter accompanying it to the Secretary of the London

Meteorological Society.

I have, &c.

RAWSON W. RAWSON,

(Signed) His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

Governor.

&c.

&c.

&c.

REPORT.

At the close of my last year's Report I expressed an anticipation that the year 1866 would be marked by a notable advance in the progress and prospects of the Colony. I could not then foresee that the strife of men would be so soon followed by a war of elements, and that these Islands, which had for so many years been spared from such a visitation, would be swept, almost throughout, by a hurricane so disastrous as to stamp the year one of the most remarkable in the history of the Colony. I shall endeavour, in an Appendix, to furnish an epitomized account of this event, and of its effects. In this Report I shall confine myself to remarks upon other general topics, only indirectly connected with the hurricane.

2. The Colony had almost recovered its normal condition at the close of the year 1865, after the fever of the two preceding years had subsided, and it was commencing to rally from the state of exhaustion which was caused by the sudden cessation of the civil war in America. The occurrence of very violent storms to windward of the Colony in the month of January caused many disasters to passing shipping, and brought a considerable amount of business connected with wrecks and crippled ships, which gave an impetus to trade in the early part of the year. Considerable attention was given to the cultivation of cotton and of fruit. The sponge trade was carried on to an unusual extent, and the

passing of an Act by the Colonial Legislature to repress the abuses of wrecking, and to divert the attention of the population from that employment to agriculture and other pursuits on shore, appeared likely to operate beneficially and to lead to the increase of the wealth and prosperity of the Colony. But the hurricane, which commenced among the south-eastern Islands of the group on the 30th September, and passed away to the north-west on the 2d October, disappointed all their expectations—swept away the crops of fruit and grain, uprooted the orchards, broke down the cotton plants, disturbed and tore away the sponges, and discouraged and disheartened the population throughout the Colony, who having been for many years free from such a misfortune had become accustomed to look upon hurricanes as dangers of past times, or to which their neighbours were unhappily exposed, but which they need take no precautions to resist.

3. This occurrence, though it seriously affected the population of most of the Islands. caused them heavy losses, and still greater personal inconvenience and hardship, checked the onward progress of agricultural industry, and in New Providence caused a serious drain upon the capital and credit of individuals, did not very seriously affect commerce or diminish the revenue. A large number of wrecks and damaged ships came into Nassau; the inhabitants of some of the out Islands profited by salvage and derelicts. The provisions and other property destroyed or damaged in the stores had to be replaced, and thus both the trade and revenue of the Colony were maintained beyond

4. The following comparison between 1866 and 1861, the year preceding the civil war in America, will show the progress which the Colony has made during that period; and the half-yearly receipts of revenue in 1864 and 1866 will show the downward

rogress from					1861.		1866.	Per-centage. Increase.
					£		£	
Value o	of imports			-	274,584		328,622	19.6
,,	exports		-		195,584		261,976	33.8
"	revenue		* - C	-	35,541		50,216	41.2
Half-yearly	returns of re	evenue :-					£	
	1864. First	t half				-	51,068	
		nd "				-	55,569	
	1865. First					-	53,870	
		nd "		-			30,616	
	1866. First		-			-	26,062	
		and "	-				25,017	

During the first half of the present year (1867) the revenue has yielded 24,708l.

Population.

5. There has been nothing to note as regards increase by immigration or change by migration. The health of New Providence and of the other Islands, with one exception, has been very good. No case of yellow fever occurred during the year. In the early part of the year typhoid fever appeared at Harbour Island and Spanish Wells, and A Commission was appointed to investigate the causes, and caused several deaths. suggest the required remedies. The Medical Inspector was sent from Nassau to conduct the inquiry, and the report of the Commission has led to several sanitary improvements in both places.

6. The number of births has slightly increased during the last year; that of deaths has been, strange to say, exactly the same, or, deducting the difference by violent deaths,

which includes drowning, has been about 5 per cent. less.

	0,	Total.	Total.	Deaths by
				violence.
In 1865		Births, 1,268	Deaths, 924	57
In 1866		,, 1,292	,, 924	105

7. The quarterly returns of the mortality show that there was a considerable decrease until the last quarter, when the hurricane not only caused several violent deaths, but produced increased mortality by the exposure and hardship which it inflicted upon large numbers of the poorer classes. The latter influence is likely to operate during a portion of the present year, 1867. The decrease in the first three cuarters was 11.5 per cent.; the increase in the last quarter amounted to 31.7 per cent., of which 21.6 is owing to BAHAMAS.

——

				1865.	1866.
First quarter		402		2437	211)
Second ,,		1.2		199 >678	183 >600
Third ,,		-	-	236	$183 \atop 206 $ 600
Fourth "	-			246	324
				-	
				924	924
					STANSAND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND

8. A classification of the diseases during each of the last three years will suffice to some extent to show the character of those which usually prove fatal in these Islands, it being borne in mind that the occurrence of yellow fever is exceptional and rare. The return would be more valuable if the number of undefined cases were not so large.

			William Contract	No. of Deaths.	
			1864.	1865.	1866
Fevers:					
Ordinary	-	-	214	173	179
Yellow	-	-	146	6	_
Scarlet, eruptive -		-	53	8	3
Diseases of lungs and heart	-	-	131	216	133
Do. bowels and liver		-	73	95	89
Dropsies	-		26	26	23
Diseases of brain and nerves:					
Apoplexy and palsy -	-	-	30	18	14
Convulsions and spasms	-	_	100	77	62
Sudden and violent -		-	41	57	105
Still born	12	-	10	10	18
Child birth	-	-	7	8	6
Other causes		-	165	230	292
Total -	- To		996	924	924

Education.

9. The anticipated improvement in the management of the schools, and increase of schools and scholars, have been fully realized, although the hurricane caused a temporary check to their progress. For a week after that disaster every school ceased work, almost all the school-houses having been more or less injured. 17 schools had to be transferred to other buildings. But within a month most of the schools were at work, and upon the close of the year only two remained closed, and neither of them for any reason connected with the hurricane.

10. The number of schools increased from 30 to 37 in the year. The number of scholars on the books increased from 2,047 to 2,877, and the average attendance from 1,053 to 1,715. The per-centage of increase has been—

On number of schools - - 23.3 per cent.
,, scholars on books - - 40.5 ,,
On average attendance - - 62.5 ,,

- 11. The Education Board, whose report is appended,* state that "there is reason to * Not printed.
- "believe that some of the teachers are exerting a salutary influence not only on the children, but also on the whole community. This has been gathered from the testimony of visitors, committees, parents, and the Inspector's Report. To this fact the
- "Board attribute much of the success which has attended their operations for the past two years."

Crime and Pauperism.

12. The cessation of the blockade running trade has begun to exercise the influence on the criminal calendar which was to be expected, although the number of offenders brought before the General Court is still double that of the period before the war. The 20043.

consequences of the hurricane may have led to a temporary increase in the number of larcenies during the last quarter of the year. But the rule of the population was charity, and the Government for some weeks supplied the wants of many settlements in the out Islands where the greatest need existed. This cause, therefore, had probably no great effect in swelling the number of offenders.

General Court.

		C	onvicted.	Acquitted.	Total.
				_	_
1861		_	13	4	17
1862		-	22	12	34
1863	-	-	59	23	82
1864			75	24	99
1865			65	37	102
1866			46	15	61

Convictions in Police Court.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
1863	-	- 689	189	878
1864		- 891	221	1,112
1865		- 922	245	1,167
1866	7 - 19	- 742	386	1,128

- 13. A startling feature in the last return is the increase in the number of female offenders convicted in the police court. It indicates the state of degradation to which the profligacy of the blockade-running period has brought a number of women who were exposed to it. For the aggregate has been formed by the repeated convictions of a comparatively small number.
- 14. The expenditure for the maintenance of indigent sick paupers has continued to increase, notwithstanding the extensive relief given from hurricane funds during the last two months of the year. The Commissioners of the New Providence Asylum have expended 2,658l. against 2,489l. in 1865.

Legislation of 1866.

15. The usual annual session of the Legislature opened on the 8th February, and closed on the 10th May, and an extraordinary session was held in November, between the 6th and the 14th of that month, for the purpose of authorizing a loan to provide for the reconstruction and repair of the numerous public buildings destroyed or damaged by the hurricane, and for assistance to the poorer inhabitants of the Colony in the restoration of their buildings, and in furnishing them with temporary means of subsistence.

The principal Acts passed were:—
1. "To divide the Electoral District of Andros, and to give representation to the

Biminis."—Cap. 1.

2. "To amend the Alien Law." - Cap. 15. 3. "To revise the Procedure of the Court of Common Pleas."—Cap. 34. 4. "To amend the Equity Procedure in the General Court."—Cap. 31.

5. "To amend the Law of Evidence in Criminal Cases."—Cap. 3.

- 6. "To amend the Law of Perjury."—Cap. 4.
 7. "To amend the Education Act."—Cap. 30.
 8. "To provide for the Incorporation of Trading Companies (Limited Liability)." Cap. 5.
- 9. "To amend the Licensed Vessels (Wrecking) Acts."—Cap. 16. 10. "To consolidate and amend the Tonnage Dues." - Cap. 13.
- 11. "To exempt Machinery, &c. from Import Duties."—Cap. 11.

 12. "To regulate the Receiver-General's Department."—Cap. 10.

 13. "To continue the office of Assistant Police Magistrate, Nassau."—Cap. 29.

14. "To establish Fire Brigades in Nassau."—Cap. 25.

15. "To authorize a Loan for Repairing Hurricane Damages." (Cap. 1 of Session of 1866-7.)

Land and Agriculture.

BAHAMAS.

16. There has been an increase in the number and area of grants of land during the year, independent of the completion of a sale of 1,000 acres of forest land in Andros, made some years ago, which makes this appear larger than it would otherwise be.

In	1864	w	Grants,	62	-	Acres, 2071
,,	1865	-	,,,	33	-	$,, 117\frac{1}{2}$
99	1866	-	,,	84	-	$,, 1,477\frac{1}{2}$

17. Up to the time of the hurricane the prospects of the Colony as regards the production of fruit and cotton were very promising. The pine-apple crop had been shipped, and showed an increase of $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., viz., from 219,000 dozens to 255,000 dozens without any decrease in the value. But the crop of oranges was destroyed. The value of those exported fell from 5,745l. to 469l. The hurricane, however, not only stripped the orange trees, but uprooted them to a great extent, affecting the crops of the present and succeeding years; and the pine fields were so damaged as to have reduced the crop of this year by one half or more.

18. The cotton fields were much damaged, and the planters proportionately discouraged. Last year the expected crop of Long Island alone was estimated at 20,000l. The export of the whole Colony was only valued at 6,947l. This, however was an

advance upon that of the preceding year, which amounted to only 2,360%.

Imports and Exports.

19. It is difficult to say whether the effects of the exceptional trade of 1862-65 had altogether ceased during 1866; but if they had, the results of the year are satisfactory, since the value of imports and exports, as compared with the average of 1860-61, the years immediately preceding the war, shows a considerable increase, viz., of imports nearly one third (29·1 per cent.), and of exports nearly one half (48·3 per cent.).

Years.			Imports.	Exports.
			£	£
1860			234,029	157,350
1861		1	274,584	195,584
1862		-	1,250,322	1,007,755
1863		-	4,295,316	3,368,567
1864	- 1	-	5,346,112	4,672,398
1865			1,470,467	2,063,474
1866	-	-	328,622	261,976

20. The trade of the Colony with each country in the last two years, of which the first was exceptional, and in 1861, with which the last may be most properly compared, is shown in the following statement:—

£ 51,025 166 933	1865. £ 417,326 13,661 117,638	1866. £ 52,124 1,416 6,989
51,025 166 933	417,326 13,661	52,124 1,416
166 933	13,661	52,124 1,416
166 933	13,661	1,416
933		
70.104	Service de description de la company de la c	
52,124	548.625	60,529
		00,029
		628
		-
14,775	,,,,	20,421
2,313		4,199
136,002		133,706
		1,479
	200	
66,519	28,017	107,660
274,584	1,470,467	328,622
	2,313 136,002 — — — — — — — — —	2,851 6,100 — 125 — 3,963 14,775 42,522 2,313 31,083 136,002 808,898 — 934 — 200 66,519 28,017

		E	Exports.		
			1861.	1865.	1866.
			£	£	£
United Kingdom			43,901	1,385,646	63,012
British North Ame	rica	FF-1-1	2,304	198,243	6,170
" West Indies	3 -		3,170	5,114	4,763
			49,375	1,589,003	73,945
France -	-		36,210	42,617	9,902
Denmark, Colonies	of			21,102	
Spain do.		-	4,673	105,007	7,990
Hayti -	-	-	1,299	19,746	4,077
United States	-	1.	104,027	207,786	160,884
Mexico -	-			78,213	47
Central America			_		5,131
Total	-		195,584	2,063,474	261,976

21. From the above it will be seen :-

1st. As regards imports in 1866 as compared with 1861, that the greater portion of the increase has arisen from wrecks, but that a trade has sprung up with the other British Colonies in North America and West Indies.

2nd. As regards exports, that the increase has been general, except as regards France, which is accounted for by an exceptionally large export of foreign cotton in 1861, and by a falling off in the export of sponge.

22. The exports of native productions has not materially increased in the last three

years, viz. :-

23. The increase in the exportation of pine apples and cotton has already been noticed. The export of salt decreased from 10,057l. to 6,879l., while that of sponge increased from 20,690l. to 29,299l.

Wrecks.

24. The number of wrecks and casualties in 1866 was unusually large, not only caused by the hurricane of October, but by the storms of January.

		Wrecks.	Casualties.	Total.
			The state of the s	
1864	-	48	19	67
1865	-	30	31	61
1866	-	63	31	94

25. The excess of wrecks was chiefly on the windward side of the islands, as was to be expected.

u.				1864.	1865.	1866.
To Windward:	_				_	
North-east,	Little Ba	hama Bank	-	5	5	14
East,	Great	ditto	-	1.0	7	16
South-east,		ditto	-	13	2	12
South,		ditto	-	1	1	1
To Leeward :-						
West,	ditto	ditto	-	6	7	9
On the Gre				1	4	6
Central,			-	10	3	2
North-west	Little B	ahama Bank		2	1	3
		Total		48	30	63
				=		-

^{*} After correcting an erroneous entry in the published accounts of that year which recorded an exportation of native instead of foreign mahogany, to the value of 5,650l.

26. The number of wrecks and casualties which occurred in each month is shown in the following statement. The increase in September was also attributable to the hurricane which passed over the more southerly Islands of the group on the last day of that month. The return does not show the full effects of that visitation, because it does not include small colonial vessels, and because the month of October in 1865 was also very disastrous to shipping. It can be better gathered from this fact, that the wrecks, exclusive of casualties, which occurred in the month of October during the eight years 1858–64, were only 10 in number, or little more than one a year, In 1865 they were eight, and in 1866 as many as 20.

Months.					1865.	1866.
January -	-				2	20
February -			-		4	5
March -					2	2
April -					7	6
May -					6	6 2
June -	-					7
July -	-	-			1	3
August -	LL PE				1	6
September				-	3	7
October -					20	27
November				-	7	3
December	-			-	8	6
Total	-		-	-	61	94

27. The influence of the cessation of the civil war in restoring the normal proportion of British and American vessels frequenting these seas will be seen in the following statement, showing the nationality of wrecks and casualties:—

			1864.	1865.	1866.
British			42	27	38
American		-	18	24	53
French		-	2	1	1
Spanish		-	_	2	1
Dutch	-1			1	
Swedish			1	-	1
Danish		-	-	1	
Hamburg		-	1		-
Bremen	-	-	_	2	_
Unknown			3	3	
	Total		67	61	94

28. The nature of the cargoes in each of the last years is shown in the following statement. The increase in the number of ships laden with lumber indicates one of the consequences of the revival of trade between the northern and southern sections of the United States.

tes.	Wre	Wrecks.			Casualties.	
	1865.	1866.		1865.	1866.	
Assorted	11	13	-	9	16	
Colonial Produce:-						
Sugar, &c	1	-		5	3	
Coffee, &c	3	3	-	1	1	
Rum and Sugar -	1	_			-	
Cotton	_	2		3	2	
Tobacco		1		-	_	
Provisions :-						
Cattle	1				-	
Fruit		2	-	1	_	
Lime and Potatoes		1	-	1	_	
Fish	1			_	_	
Flour and Wine -	_	1		-	1	
Salt	-	-	-	3	2	

Man vinastra		Wre	eks.		Casu	asualties.	
Timber :-		1865.	1866.		1865.	1866.	
Lumber -	-	3	8	-		8	
Cooperage	-	1	1	-	1	2	
Hard Woods	-	2	5	-	1	3	
Other:—							
Coals -	-	4	3	-	_		
Copper ore	-	_	1	-	_	_	
Guano -				-	1	2	
Ice and Cooper	age			-		1	
Machinery	-	-		-	-	1	
Passengers	-	_	_		1		
In ballast	-	1	5	-	2	6	
Not stated	-	1		-	2	<u> </u>	
Total		30	46		31	48	

29. An increase in the value of wrecked property landed, and of duties received therefrom, has been the natural consequence of the large increase in the number of wrecks, although the duties have not yielded in proportion to the increased value of the property.

30. Of the total number of wrecks and casualties in 1866, 30 are attributable to the hurricane of October. Of these only two were subjected to the usual inquiry as to the cause of the accident. As regards the remainder, inquiries were held in 35 cases, and the reports printed and distributed in the Colony, and sent to Her Majesty's Government for transmission to the Board of Trade and Lloyd's Committee, as usual.

31. There has been a decrease in the number of vessels licensed for wrecking during the year, but an increase in the number of men.

Vessels - - 230 - 161 Men - - 1,045 - 1,502

32. The operation of the recent law, which excludes vessels and boats under five tons burthen, is seen in the above return, and the degree in which it affected the several islands is shown in the following statement:—

Vessels licensed for Wrecking in each Island.

		1865.			1866.	
				**		M
		No.		No.	Tonnage.	Men.
New Providence	-	113	-	89	2,096	927
Inagua		46	-	19	143	142
Abaco	-	44		30	314	248
Harbour Island -	-	20		5	211	54
Long Cay (Crooked	Island)	5	- 1-	16	165	126
Eleuthera -	-	1	-	1	37	5
Long Island -		1	3 2 - 1	1	18	None.
Total		230		161	2,984	1,502
				-		

Shipping.

33. The shipping returns show, as was to be expected, a continued falling off:-

Entered in 1865, 770 vessels, 124,669 tonnage. 1866, 504 , 62,062 ,,

34. But, differing from last year, the out-islands have shared in this reduction, though not to an equal extent.

Entered the out-islands in 1865, 225 vessels, 18,055 tonnage.

"" 1866, 202 ", 14,029 ",

35. It is useless to compare the trade of last year carried on with different countries with that of any of the immediately preceding years, but not so with any year before the war, say, 1860.

	ENTER	RED.					
	No. of	Tons.	1	Per-centage proportion.			
Countries.	1860.	1866.	1860.		1866.		
United Kingdom -	2,216	3,302	-	7.6	5.4		
British North America	154	1,175	-	•5	2.		
British West Indies -	5,637	4,490	_	19.2	7.3		
France	616		-	2.1			
United States	16,817	37,821	-	57.2	61.1		
Colonies of Spain -	2,449	12,795	_	8.3	20.2		
" France -	_	429	-		.7		
" Denmark -	221	189		.8	.3		
Hayti	1,278	1,861	-	4.3	3.		
Total	29,388	62,062		100	100.		

	CLEAR	RED.			
	No. of	Tons.	P	er-centage	proportion.
Countries.	1860.	1866.		1860.	1866.
United Kingdom -	2,926	3,750		9.6	6.3
British North America	2,679	1,328	-	8.8	2.3
British West Indies -	1,688	1,814	-	5.5	3.1
France	1,419	422	-	4.6	.8
United States -	18,437	37,585	-	60.4	62.4
Colonies of Spain -	2,545	13,412	-	8.3	22.4
" Denmark -		24	-	_	•1
Hayti	846	1,276	-	2.8	2.1
Mexico		176	-	_	.3
Central America -		101	-	_	.2
Total	30,540	59,888	-	100.	100.

36. These returns show that the shipping trade has doubled since 1860, and that the increase, both inwards and outwards, has been chiefly with the United States and Cuba.

37. British and Colonial shipping have obtained the larger portion of this increase, although American shipping has doubled.

		Tonnage entered.			
		1860.	1866.		
		2,216	18,220		
olonial	-		22,281		
-	-		448		
	_		406		
	-	_	200		
	-	10.390	20,363		
	-	323	144		
Total		29,388	62,062		
	olonial Total		1860. - 2,216 olonial - 15,652 - 741 - 66 10,390 - 323		

BAHAMAS. 38. The progress of the trade of the several islands is shown in the following state-

			Tonnage entered.	
		1860.	1865.	1866.
New Providence (Nassau)	-	15,649	106,614	48,033
Inagua	-	6,348	8,288	4,673
Harbour Island -	-	2,688	3,287	3,569
Long Cay (Crooked Island)	-	1,545	1,814	2,760
Eleuthera	-	1,540	1,554	1,716
Abaco	-	1,151	876	555
Ragged Island -	-	276	1,300	422
Rum Cay		191	273	320
Long Island	-	_	613	
Exuma	-		50	14
m . 1		00.000	104 607	60 060
Total	-	29,388	124,697	62,062

39. The number and tonnage of vessels built in the several islands was :-

			No.	Tons.
New Providence			2	17
Abaco -			5	48
Harbour Island		-	1	3
Eleuthera -			1	7
Grand Bahama			1	10
Inagua -			1	10
Ragged Island	-		_1	6
Total			13	159

40. The total number and tonnage of vessels registered in the Colony was considerably reduced last year, and those of American vessels dwindled to what it was before the civil war.

					No.		Tons.	
	Tot	al regis	tered, 1865		80		10,338	
			1866		29		8,231	
		"					No.	Tons.
							-	
Americ	an-built	vessels	registered as	British,	1865	-	42	5,252
				,,	1866		2	532

Trade.

41. Exchange.—The rate on London has remained about the same, fluctuating between 3 and 4 per cent. The Commissariat drew only in the last quarter at those rates of premium.

42. Public Bank.—The contraction of the mercantile business of this city has led to a further great diminution in the transactions of the bank.

			Receipts.	Payments.
			£	£
1863	_		2,128,721	1,988,661
1864	-	-	3,585,574	3,413,995
1865	-	1	1,722,601	1,905,557
1866		-	795,604	889,823

43. The cash balance at the end of the year had again decreased by one half, but was still one half greater than at the end of 1862.

			£
1861		-	44,509
1862	-	-	61,691
1863		-	201,746
1864	-	-	373,324
1865		-	190,363
1866	T.	-	96,149

44. The reduction has been chiefly in American gold, and in silver, of which by far the larger portion in circulation is American.

		1865.	1866.
		_	_
		£	£
Gold, English		- 28,322	15,345
" American	*	- 47,828	6,416
" Spanish		- 19,908	15,705
,, French	100-	- 41	
Silver	W. C.	- 94,247	58,683
Total		- 190,363	96,149
			AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON

45. The surplus interest received from the bank during the year was 950l. In 1866 it was 700l.

46. Savings Bank.—This institution has continued to retrograde during the year. The number of accounts opened during that period was only 3; the number closed was 6; the amount deposited was 24l. 14s. 9d; the amount withdrawn was 424l. 3s. 9d. The number of depositors at the end of the year was 143. The amount of their deposits was 4,147l. 1s. 9d.

Post Office.

47. Nothing can indicate more unmistakeably the closing of the transactions arising out of the late civil war, and the return of the Colony to its ordinary commercial condition than the returns of the Post Office for the last year. At the same time they exhibit either an increase of the interinsular communication, or the effect of the increased postal arrangements upon the transmission of letters by the monthly mail schooner.

		1864.	1865.	1866.
Letters sent out of the Colon	у -	43,903	29,794	17,163
Ditto, Interinsular -	-	1,309	1,845	2,762
Ditto, Registered	-	1,934	1,135	378
Newspapers	-	11,671	8,516	7,372
Book Parcels	-	82	115	82

48. The revenue exhibits a corresponding decrease, from 454l. 12s. 8d. to 249l. 0s. 11d. The insignificance of this amount is explained by the fact that the Imperial Post Office takes eleven-twelfths of the postage between Nassau and England, and the whole of the postage between Nassau and New York, although the Colony contributes half of the annual subsidy (3,000l.) for the maintenance of a steamer running monthly between the last two places.

49. The number of Money Orders and the amount of commission upon them have continued to increase.

Number - - - - 690 1,032 Commission - - - 5,318 8,207

Bankruptcies and Actions for Debt.

50. No bankruptcy or insolvency was pronounced during the year. There has been a decrease in the number of writs issued by the General Court and in the claims for debt, &c. prosecuted in the Court of Common Pleas, viz.:—

			1865.	1866.
0 10 . W				
General Court.—Writs issued .		-	190	132
Civil Actions tried .		-	65	63
Court of Common Pleas.—Claims for		-	768	770
Trover and	Detinue, &c.		73	30

Prices and Wages.

51. Both continue to decline, but not without strenuous efforts on the part of the labouring classes to uphold the rate of wages; and many are believed to prefer remaining altogether without employment than to accept reduced terms, or labouring for two or three days a week on high terms, than to work continuously on such as employers would be willing to give.

20043.

Public Market, Nassau.

52.—The receipts exhibit a further decrease in 1866.

						£
1864	-		-		-	1,184
1865	-	-		-	-	874
1866	-	-		-		624

53. It is hoped that the competition of the stock growers of the Out-Islands with the Nassau butchers, which has lately been effected by a change in the market arrangements, will tend both to increase the supplies of meat and to improve the revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure.

- 54. The revenue of the year exhibited a large, but not unexpected reduction, amounting to 40 per cent., viz., from 84,487l. in 1865 to 51,080l. The expenditure was not capable of a corresponding immediate reduction, and the liquidation of heavy engagements undertaken in past years pressed heavily on the Treasury in 1866. The reduction amounted only to 1,564l., viz., from 78,549l. to 76,985l. The balance in the public chest was reduced from 30,129l. 11s. 1d. to 4,616l. 6s. 11d.
- 55. The deficiency is spread over the customs, tonnage dues, warehousing charges, and all the duties which bore upon ships and cargoes carrying on the blockade running trade. The customs yielded 34,408l., instead of 61,009l.
- 56. As regards the expenditure, there was a retrenchment of 6,970l. upon the establishments, and an increase of 6,417l. upon appropriations for public works, which includes the first instalment of 6,860l. on account of the New Prison, commenced in Nassau under Acts of past years.

Military.

57. Part of the detachment of troops which was sent to Jamaica in September 1865 returned in April, and the remainder in August of this year. The wing of Her Majesty's 1st West India regiment was relieved in December by a wing of Her Majesty's 2nd West. After the occurrence of the hurricane Her Majesty's Government sanctioned the temporary suspension of the projected works for the defence of Nassau.

Meteorology.

58. Owing to the destruction by the same cause of several of the instruments used by the military authorities in taking the only meteorological observations methodically recorded in Nassau, I am unable to offer the same statements as in preceding years. I have already noticed the prevalence of violent storms in January, and of a destructive hurricane in October. The course and effects of the latter are detailed in the Appendix.

Conclusion.

59. No event of importance has occurred during the year except the hurricane. Its consequences cannot well be foreseen; whether it will stimulate the people to greater exertion and provision for the future, or discourage them and check their progress. In Nassau it has led to an improvement in the appearance of the city. Many old buildings disfiguring the streets have disappeared; a few of the injured buildings have been pulled down; the others have been restored. The work of renovation has been general, and the aspect of the city is changed only by the diminution of the trees and foliage, which has even tended to increase its salubrity, while the condition and resources of the community do not appear to have suffered any material permanent injury. The latter remark applies generally to the Out-Islands, but I regret to have to add, in explanation, that this is rather owing to the low state of both before the visitation, than to the elasticity and energy which have had so beneficial an effect in hastening on the work of restoration in New Providence.

RAWSON A. RAWSON,
Governor.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD. No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable ARTHUR H. GORDON to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 144.)

My LORD DUKE,

Trinidad, November 8, 1867. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of this Island for

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham

the year 1866, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c. (Signed)

ARTHUR GORDON.

and Chandos,

&c. &c.

&c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF TRINIDAD FOR THE YEAR 1866.

Taxes and Duties.

The taxes and duties levied in 1866 were the same as in 1865.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866, 226,218l., exceeded that of 1865 by 6,900l., the chief increase being in the amount of import duty received, which in 1866 was 5,0821. more than in 1865.

The expenditure of 1866 was 203,428l., being 18,857l. less than that of 1865, and 22,7901. less than the revenue received in 1866. It must, however, be borne in mind that the redemption of the public debt and the sums received from local and other sources in aid of that redemption are included in the amounts here given as the expenditure and revenue respectively.

Public Debt.

By the payments made in 1866 the public debt of the Colony was reduced from 179,500l. to 172,800l. An explanation of the several items of the debt will be found in the Blue Book reports of previous years.

Legislation.

The only legislative measure of 1866 which deserves special notice is the Ordinance No. 8, for the establishment of Estates' Hospitals, a measure which has already worked much good, and which has on the whole been carried out with praiseworthy diligence on the part of the planters, although involving a very heavy outlay on their part.

Works and Buildings.

The wharf extension works were steadily proceeded with during 1866, but their cost has greatly exceeded the original estimate, whilst their utility appears to me scarcely commensurate with the sums expended on them, or the expectations originally entertained.

Extensive repairs and alterations in the Colonial Hospital at Sanfernando were also undertaken, to the great improvement of that institution.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

TRINIDAD.

44

The other public works of the year 1866 were of too trifling a description to merit a detailed enumeration.

It must, however, be borne in mind that an urgent necessity exists for the commencement of many new public works so soon as the financial position of the Colony admits of such a course.

Imports and Exports.

The trade and production of the Colony as reflected in the customs returns show a moderate and pretty regular increase. Thus the imports and exports of the four last years were as follows:—

		Imports.	Exports.
		2	£
1863 -	Stall Y	- 710,972	796,497
1864 -	17 32 7	- 883,940	1,101,510
1865 -		- 810,347	820,109
1866 -		- 878,357	1,022,338

Shipping.

The shipping of 1866 showed an increase in tonnage over that of previous years; it was as follows:—

	Entered.	Cleared.
1865	- 136,749 tons.	127,447 tons.
1866	- 138,801 ,,	142,503 ,,

Agriculture.

The returns of acreage are made up from details furnished by the wardens of the several Ward Unions into which the Colony is divided; and they are based upon a triennial assessment made by Commissioners appointed for the purpose in each ward. The last assessment was made in 1866, and by it it appears that the quantity of land under cultivation in canes had increased from 36,739 acres in 1863, when the previous assessment was made, to 40,437 acres. The increase in the area occupied in the cultivation of other articles is scarcely noticeable. It should be recollected that it is the practice for agriculturists here on the approach of the period of assessment to permit such portions of land as they can spare from immediate use to go out of cultivation in order that it may be assessed at the lower rate imposed on uncultivated land; and immediately upon the completion of the assessment the cultivation is resumed. Cacao plantations cannot be treated in this way.

There are no means of ascertaining the quantity of sugar consumed in the Colony, and the quantity of that staple given in these returns is consequently that of exports only. It amounted in 1866 to 91,094,000 lbs. The average export of sugar during the years 1839-40-41, being the first three after emancipation, was 26,856,600 lbs., whilst the average for the years 1864-65-66 was 77,640,700 lbs.

The favourable state of the market for cacao has given an impulse to the growth of that article, which is being gradually exhibited in increased production. But the length of time (seven years) necessary for the full development of a cacao plantation prevents a very rapid rise in the quantity grown, and the real increase is further masked by the fluctuations from year to year in the crops gathered. In 1839 and 1840 the crops of cacao do not seem to have been gathered; but for the next three years (1841-42-43) we have an average of 2,810,000 lbs. An average for the three years 1864-65-66 gives 5,772,850 lbs. The crop of 1866 was, however, a small one.

The cultivation of cotton, which the American civil war at one time seemed likely to revive has again declined and the quantity produced in 1866 was returned at mil.

The cultivation of cotton, which the American civil war at one time seemed likely to revive, has again declined, and the quantity produced in 1866 was returned at *nil*. But some parts of the Colony are well adapted to the plant, which grows with little care and produces favourable crops.

As regards the only other staple of any note, viz., coffee, although a small quantity is still exported, the production is little more than sufficient for home consumption.

The steady increase for some years past in the price of articles of ordinary consumption is to some extent exhibited in the Blue Book returns. The following figures include some articles not mentioned in the returns.

Average Prices of Articles of Consumption.

TRINIDAD.

		18	50.		186	0.	186	66.	
Wheaten flour, per barrel		£ s			£ s.		£ s.		
Salt fish, per 100 lbs		0 1			0 18				
Corn meal, per barrel -	-	0 1	6 8		1 0	0	1 7	0	
Fowls, per dozen -		1 (1 0	0	1 8	0	
Rice, per 100 lbs.	-	0 1	5 0		0 15	0	1 5	0	
Maize, per 100 lbs		0 '			0 7	6	0 12		S. Sandania
Plantains, per 100 -	-	0 4	1 2		0 5	0	0 9		
Tanais, per barrel -	-	0 :			0 3		0 12	0.000	
Beef, per lb			5	- 1	0 0	8	0 0	1000	

Gaols.

The number of prisoners in confinement at Michaelmas 1866 is given at 355, and the total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year was 2,781. The largest number confined at any one time was 447. Although these prisoners are all committed nominally to the Royal Gaol, yet a great number of them are sent to, and worked at, out-stations, of which there are five; and most of those sentenced to long periods are employed at the Irois Convict Depôt in cutting and hauling timber.

Of the total of 2,781 prisoners confined in the gaols of the Island in 1866, 1,158 were Indian and 905 Chinese immigrants; 245 were natives of Trinidad, and the remaining 373 were chiefly from the British Antilles. A very large proportion of the immigrants are imprisoned for short periods for being found absent from their work without leave and for breach of contract.

Charitable Institutions, &c.

The most remarkable feature in this return is the increase exhibited in the number of patients in the Port of Spain and San Fernando Hospitals on the 31st December 1866. The following are the figures:—

				1865.	1866.
				-	
Port of Spain Hospital	-	-	-	119	172
San Fernando ditto			-	68	137

But these numbers do not represent the maxima of patients in these institutions which were on several occasions much higher, so that it became necessary to draft off a number of the patients of the former establishment to the Convalescent Depôt at Long Island. Some of the patients of the San Fernando Hospital were also sent to the same place; and for the accommodation of the remaining surplus a house was hired in the neighbourhood of the hospital. The number of inmates of the hospitals has, however, been reduced by the Immigrants' Hospitals Ordinance, No. 8, of 1866, which has lessened the pressure upon the public establishments of those cases (amongst the indentured immigrants) which can be efficiently treated upon the estate and under the charge of its medical attendant.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS No. 7.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Walker, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 679.)

My Lord Duke, Windward Islands, Barbados, November 27, 1867.

The period of the year has now arrived at which it has been usual to make the annual report on the condition and prospects of this Island.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

2. In the mode of raising the revenue there was no change in 1866 further than by the repeal of an additional rate of 25 per cent. on the customs duties, which had been imposed in 1864 to meet an excess of expenditure.

BARBADOS.

The object was fully attained, and there is now a considerable surplus in the Treasury.

3. The present tariff is a moderate one, and contrasts favourably with that of most of our neighbours.

Fees of Public Officers.

4. There has been no alteration in the fees collected at the several public offices, a considerable portion of which goes to the credit of the Colony; and I have heard of no complaint respecting them.

Revenue and Expenditure.

5. The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the five years ending with 1866:—

			Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£	£
1862	 	-	93,682	93,461
1863			102,572	104,795
1864	-		107,391	104,384
1865	-	4	* 98,870	99,383
1866			103,935	95,838

6. Of the revenue in 1866 the sum of 60,000l. was produced by import and tonnage duties, nearly 6,000l. by the sale of licences to retail beer and spirits, and between 16,000l. and 17,000l. by the tax of one shilling per gallon on all rum consumed in the Island.

7. Considering the number and nature of the establishments which are necessary in so populous a place as this, the expenditure is not large. The truth is, that the salaries of most of the public servants are wretchedly small, and that those only are candidates for public employment who do not see their way in any other walk of life. Still their name is legion, but the circumstance will not be very surprising to your Grace when I mention to you that there are in Barbados nearly 17,000 white people and a large class of coloured inhabitants whose sphere of employment from climate and other causes is necessarily limited.

8. The import and tonnage duties during the last five years have been as follows:-

				£
1862		-	-	51,430
1863	-	-	-	50,945
1864			-	56,735
1865	4.6	-	-	60,075
1866	-		-	61,628

9. The expense of collecting the customs' duties has been a little over 6 per cent.

10. The Post Office over and above its revenue continues to form a charge to the public of something like 600l. a year, but there is a daily delivery throughout the Island,

and the general convenience of the institution is very great.

11. There has been a marked diminution in the expenditure under the head of Gaols and Prisons in 1865 and 1866 as compared with those of previous years. In some measure this is owing to the number of prisoners in these two years being at times much smaller than usual, but it must be attributed in a greater degree to the establishment and success of a new system under which the food and clothing of the prisoners are all prepared inside the prison walls by the females.

Local Revenues.

12. The Parochial Rates and Expenses for 1866 present no new feature. Thanks to a succession of several genial seasons and the consequent continuous demand for labour, the call for relief comes chiefly from the old and the infirm.

13. The Local Highway Rates on horses and carriages, subsidized by votes from the Public Treasury to the amount of 5,450l., continue to be administered very successfully by Parochial Commissioners, and the roads throughout the Island are in excellent order.

Public Debt.

14. The general Public Debt has been extinguished, and the only unsatisfied claim against the public of any consequence, which was on account of the purchase of land in the Burnt District, has also been satisfied. More than this, there is now a balance to

^{*} This sum was stated in the Blue Book for 1865 to be 103,533l., but it included a sum of 4,663l. surplus revenue from 1864.

the credit of the public, partly in the Treasurer's hands and partly on deposit in the Barbados. Colonial Bank, amounting to upwards of 16,000*l*. sterling.

Military Expenditure.

15. Since the date of my last report a mounted corps has been organized under the Militia Bill passed in 1866; but the opposition which has been manifested throughout to its formation has not diminished. The estimate prepared and sent in to the Assembly by the Militia Board for the clothing of the men was rejected by the House, and although some of the troops have supplied themselves with a simple uniform at their own expense, and all have assembled and drilled under adverse circumstances, I have not been able to unite the proprietary body, particularly the representatives of some of the largest absentees, in the support of a local force. The unpopularity of the measure has been promoted and increased by the heavy tax of 1s. per acre which was levied for the support of the militia. That part of the scheme emanated from liberal gentlemen on the spot, who themselves had to pay it; but it has had the effect of making the measure very unpalatable to the small holders, who have in consequence been an easy prey to the agitators against the establishment of all militia or volunteer forces.

16. A bill was passed in the Assemby in the early part of last session to repeal the

Militia Act, but it was unanimously rejected by the Council.

Public Works.

17. In my report of last year I referred to the stoppage of the works connected with the erection of a swing bridge over the Careenage, and to the inquiry instituted by the House of Assembly into their conduct and progress. The investigation was carried on with a feeling very hostile to the Governor and Council, and was promoted and supported

by the same members who had sent up a bill to repeal the Militia Act.

18. I have no wish to dwell upon this unseemly business, and indeed this would not be the proper place to do it, particularly as some kind of shame has been latterly exhibited at the manner in which a most important work has been so long and uselessly suspended, and as the Governor in Council has recently been addressed by the House of Assembly with the view of having the work completed, I hope, therefore, that it will not be long before a satisfactory report is made to your Grace of its progress.

Legislation.

19. The Legislation of 1866 was of a less important character than in several preceding years. The first six months of the year belonged to the session 1865-6,—your Grace must be reminded that we have annual Parliaments here,—and were not altogether barren of results. The Legislature passed the Act, about which there has been so much noise since, for the formation of a local force; it gave additional support to the Public Library; it adopted the laws of the mother country in regard to Joint Stock Companies; it assisted several parochial efforts to improve the accommodation of the people and the comfort of the clergy, and it effected some minor reforms in the administration of the vestries.

20. In the new Assembly, which was returned on the 13th of July 1866, nothing was attempted during the rest of the year except the abortive bill to repeal the Militia Law, the time of the House being taken up with a controverted election, and the discussions

about the bridge.

As the session drew to a close this year, however, the Legislature somewhat redeemed itself by one or two useful measures. Of these, the principal were, the establishment of a harbour police, an additional education grant, and the restoration of the Assistant Court of Appeal to its original number of three judges.

Council and Assembly.

21. Since the date of my last report there has been no change in the Council.

22. In the Assembly there has been this year an addition to the anti-militia party. The late Speaker of the House having retired, his place as member for St. Andrew's parish has been supplied by his brother, who has been a strong supporter of a local force; but the Auditor-General has been driven from the House, and been succeeded by Mr. Springer, who is opposed to all militia; and if the changes which have taken place in other parishes have not added to the number of members opposed to the Government on this question, neither have they added much to the weight and character of the opposition.

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BARRADOS.

Civil Establishment.

23. The only change of any consequence which has lately occurred in the civil establishment of the Island is the appointment of Mr. Gore to the Colonial Secretaryship in the room of Mr. Holligan transferred to British Guiana.

24. The increase of the Assistant Court of Appeal has led also to the confirmation of

Mr. Prescod, who had long acted provisionally, as one of the judges.

Population.

25. It is impossible to form a reliable estimate of the increase which has taken place in the population of the Island since the last census in 1861. There is no doubt, however, but that it has been considerable, notwithstanding the drain which goes on to all the other Colonies. The emigration to Demerara continues, but not by any means on the same scale as formerly. It is now nearly confined to the males, many of whom visit their families and friends in Barbados at holiday time, Easter and Christmas.

Education.

26. I annex a table exhibiting the standard attained in the several schools in connexion with the Education Committee in the year 1866.

27. In sending me this return the Inspector of Schools remarks:

"The 2,500l. annually spent by the Legislature on the public schools has this year "been increased to 3,000l, in consideration of the additional expense attending the " education of augmented numbers in the primary schools, and to permit of the extension " of the primary school plan to the infant schools.

"The relation of our poorest classes to the education system supported by the "Government has become such that the most necessitous parent, prepared to feed and

- " cheaply clothe his child, ought nowhere to be found in the Island, who may not by the " mere asking procure instruction for his offspring within easy distance of home, from a
- "fairly efficient teacher, in a decent apartment suitably furnished, and fairly found in school materials. Where exceptions to this statement are found the apathy of the local" (he means the district or parish) "authorities, not a deficient liberality on the part of the Legislature, will be discovered to be the cause."

Trade and Shipping.

28. The following is a statement of the imports and exports for the last five years:— Imports.

				£	£
1862 -		-	-	913,141	1,067,612
1863 -		-	-	878,208	981,142
1864 -		70-1	-	910,081	925,957
1865 -				953,334	1,161,159
1866 -	-	-	-	988,082	1,246,844

29. The produce exported from the Island has been considerably overvalued, a circumstance not so likely to occur in regard to the imports. The price put upon the sugar is 15l. per hogshead, which is much above the average sum at which it was sold.

30. The sugar crop for the last five years may be stated as follows:-

Hogsheads. 46,078 1863 42,436 1864 36,199 1865 47,209 57,892

31. As I have before remarked the crop of 1866 was much the largest ever made in the Island. That which has been shipped in 1867, equal to 53,387 hogsheads, was from the state of the English market perhaps altogether a better paying one.

32. The value of the cotton exported from the Island in 1866 was nearly 10,000l.
33. The tonnage inwards during 1866 amounted to 171,370. In 1865 it had been 159,372. Of British registered vessels there were 147,144 tons in 1866, to 136,367 tons in 1865.

Mines and Fisheries.

34. Several attempts at boring for oil have been made lately, but without success. One enterprising American, after spending a good deal of time and money, has entirely

abandoned the scheme. Another gentleman, an Englishman, is meeting with just enough BARBADOR. of appearances to induce him to persevere.

35. Also under American auspices there has been a whale fishery established round the Island, but with, I fear, limited success.

Gaols and Crime.

36. The amount of prisoners in confinement, both as regards 1866 and the present year, will compare not unfavourably with the number in former years. In 1866 there were two cases of murder, in one of which the prisoner was acquitted on the ground of insanity, and in the other sentence of death was carried out. But with these two exceptions and a few burglaries, the offences were generally of no great magnitude; indeed the bulk of them consisted of thefts of sugar canes and growing provisions. I am glad to have it in my power to make an equally good report for 1867, with the gratifying addition that it has not been marked by any crime of a capital nature.

37. The ticket-of-leave system is still acted upon as far as previous good conduct and freedom from former convictions will permit. Of the prisoners to whom this indulgence was granted in 1866, only one male and one female were re-committed. In 1867 there

has been no re-commitment of any one to whom a ticket-of leave was given.

But in consequence of the large number of old offenders in confinement, the system is necessarily restricted in its operation.

General Remarks.

38. Both the trade and the agriculture of Barbados may be said to be in a highly

prosperous condition.

The former is increasing every year by reason of the Island becoming more and more the mart whence all the other West India Islands obtain their supplies of food, lumber, and indeed everything they want. The smaller Islands have quite given up all direct communication with America, and even Trinidad begins to find it advantageous to send up here for "breadstuffs" instead of having them consigned direct from the United States.

39. Nothing can be more complete than the cultivation of the soil, and it has been carried I fancy to its utmost extent. But the persons who are doing all this are not as a class earning for themselves more than a bare subsistence. Whether as the representatives of absentee proprietors or as owners of estates which they have purchased at ruinous prices and subject to an amount of debt, the interest of which generally absorbs the entire profits of their crops, these industrious and skilful men plod on from year to year, and end just where they commenced, with a load of debt which necessitates the transfer of the property to some other, of whom there are scores ready to pass through the same ordeal.

By these latter transactions the general prosperity of the Colony is not affected, however calamitous they may prove to individuals. The land which they acquired on such hard terms is kept up to the highest mark of cultivation to secure such a return as will enable the holder to pay the interest on his liabilities; more than this, as I have said, he seldom does. But the system yields employment to the labourer, and a considerable portion of the interest money is payable to residents on the spot and is therefore spent

in the Island.

40. Then there is another class of properties, now I lament to say, few, very few in number, unencumbered or slightly encumbered, but blessed with resident landlords who shine out with a lustre which reflects the most beneficial rays on all around them.

41. But it is rare that the owner of an unencumbered estate selects to reside in Barbados. The finest properties in the Island belong to absentees. The best blood of the place is squeezed out of it and is sent to England never to return in any shape. How this dense mass of people continues to get on not comfortably but contentedly against this continual and enormous drain on the resources of the Island is to me sometimes a puzzle. It is no doubt a mere daily struggle from hand to mouth, and is not considered until drought or some other visitation arrests the ordinary march of affairs, reveals the poverty and helplessness of the poor proprietors on the spot, and awakens us to the grievous absence of those real owners of the soil who alone are able to give a helping hand, whose duty it is most to give it, but whose distance from the spot and other circumstances keep them in ignorance of the condition of their peasantry and devoid of sympathy for their wants

them in ignorance of the condition of their peasantry and devoid of sympathy for their wants.
42. Outwardly everything looks well. The season has been a genial one, the face of the country presents a most beautiful appearance, and there is great promise of a crop far above the average. There is a brisk demand for labour, and I hear no murmurs from

either the employed or the employer.

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BARBADOS.

43. The general health of the Island is good. There have been a few sporadic cases of yellow fever, two of them amongst the white troops in garrison, who have in consesquence been moved into the country; and on the whole, while many of our less fortunate neighbours have been the victims of pestilence and hurricane and other disturbances of nature, we have every reason to be grateful that a merciful Providence has vouchsafed to us a special protection.

The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAS WALKER.

RESULTS of EXAMINATIONS in the PRIMARY SCHOOLS throughout 1866.

				Elementary Subjects.									ed a	Higher Subjects.						
				P	Readin remiur	g ns.		ictati emiu			rithm		Cate- chism	og sn			sentence.			melody
		ns.		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	ayer,	s, hav	elementary	entar				Proportion, est.
Religious Denominations.	Number of Schools.	Attendance at examinations.	Examinates.	Difficult passage from the Old Testament,	Average passage from the New Testament.	v Testament. ables. passage from Testament. passage from v Testament. ables. ompound rules.	compound simple rul n. s' Creed, I	Creed,	r higher sults in all the ory. England.	Grammar. Parse and eas	Geography. Higher arithmetic; Proportion, Practice, and Interest. Vocal Music. Sol-fa, and easy melody at sight.									
Church of England Wesleyan - Moravian -	- 48 - 13 - 8	3,845 834 802		631 142 129	786 150 156	735 162 171		502 101 104	654 104 136	375 55 65	291 69 59	1,104 196 248	209	30	117 5 15	26 2 3	57 5 3	29 2 6		16 2 2
Totals	- 69	5,481	3,418	902	1,092	1,068	564	707	894	495	419	1,548	1,669	298	137	31	65	37	53	20

ST.VINCENT.

No. 8.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 479.)

My Lord Duke, Windward Islands, Barbados, August 29, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of St. Vincent for 1866, with the usual annual report from the Lieutenant-Governor on the state of the Island.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAMES WALKER.

(No. 351.)

SIR,

Government House, St. Vincent, July 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866, and to report:—

Taxes.

The principal taxes in this Colony are:-

Import Duties.
Tonnage Duties.
Export Tax.
Income Tax.

Excise Duty on Rum. Trade Licences. Spirit Licences.

The only new tax imposed during the year was the additional export tax, which, however, is not included in the general statement of revenue, as the product is devoted entirely to the purposes of immigration, a moiety of the general export tax being applied to the same service. The amount realized since the Act came into operation was 1,307l.

Fees.

The returns set forth at length the fees payable to the several public officers. On the 27th of August an Act was passed reducing considerably the scale of fees payable to the Chief Justice, and providing that those fees shall in future be received and paid into the Treasury for the public uses of the Government.

ST. VINCENT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year amounted to 20,680l., which, with a balance of 559l. from the previous year, left the sum of 21,239l. available for the public service. The revenue for the previous year amounted to 18,999l., so that there was an excess of revenue in favour of 1866 of 2,240l., and when it is borne in mind that the excess arose from a tariff identical with that of the previous year, and that the expenditure is further burdened with a contribution from the General Export Tax of 653l. in aid of immigration, it follows that the difference may be regarded as the result of a legitimate increase of revenue in 1866.

The amounts collected under the several principal heads of revenue were as follows:—

		£
	-	10,678
-	-	1,238
	-	337
-	-	1,565
-	-	978
-	-	260
-	-	2,654
es	-	1,380
- 100	-	1,008
	- - - - es	

I append a statement of the revenue for the past 10 years:-

				£
1857		-	-	19,767
1858	-	-	-	20,873
1859	-		-	19,911
1860	_	-	-	20,231
1861	-		-	20,851
1862	-	-	-	16,550
1863	-	-	-	19,388
1864	-			20,360
1865	-	-	-	18,999
1866	-		-	21,239

Expenditure.

The expenditure amounted to 20,281l., and adverting to the fact that of this amount the sum of 2,546l. was expended upon services of a purely exceptional nature, and that an unappropriated balance of 957l. remained to the credit of the public on the 31st December 1866, the result cannot be looked upon in any but a favourable light. The amount to which I have alluded as not properly belonging to the regular expenditure of the Colony is made up of the following items :-

1,4211., being the payment of the loan due by the Colony to the Immigration

500l., water supply to hospital. 104l., grant to Turk's Islands.

1891., expenses contingent on recent fire. 3321., sanatory and quarantine expenses.

Local Revenues.

Immigration.

The balance to the credit of this fund at the close of the year was 2,238l., notwithstanding that the sum of 2,268l. was paid by the Colony for the expenses attendant upon the importation of Coolies ex "Countess of Ripon," and a further sum of 2,000l. was remitted to the Emigration Commissioners in London. This fund is raised under the provisions of an Act to which I have previously alluded, and which levies a duty on the exports of the Colony applicable exclusively to immigration purposes.

The fund is further aided by a contribution from the general revenue to the extent of

one half of the amount collected under "The Additional Export Tax Act."

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

Public Debt.

ST. VINCENT.

Nil.

The balance borrowed by the general revenue from the Immigration Fund, amounting to 1,421l., was repaid during the year.

Military Expenditure.

The sum of 839l. was paid by this Colony in support of the Militia and Volunteer forces. Of this amount 2301. was on account of salaries and allowances to officers, and 5211. for clothing, the small remaining balance of expenditure being for incidental purposes.

Militia and Volunteers.

This force amounts to 345 men of all arms, of which 41 belong to the troop of cavalry, 47 to the battery of artillery, and 257 to the infantry. The cavalry turn out for drill once a month, the other corps twice in each month.

The entire force was assembled at Kingstown in the month of August for the inspection of Major-General Ainslie, Commanding the Forces in the Windward and Leeward

Islands, whose report was upon the whole favourable.

The want to which I reverted in my previous report, of an officer who has served in the regular army to direct and instruct the corps, has been supplied in the person of Major Charles Creagh, who arrived in the Colony on the 6th of August, and assumed the duties of Adjutant-General of Militia and Volunteers.

Public Works.

The most important public work undertaken during the year was the construction of a reservoir for furnishing the colonial hospital and the northern part of the town with a further supply of water. The reservoir is built close to the springs of the Montrose Estate, is nearly completed, and the pipes have been imported from England. sum of 500l. has been voted from the public revenue for this service, but a further sum will be required.

The court-house and offices were shingled throughout, and put in good repair at a cost of 2801.; 1001. was expended on the repairs of St. Mary's Chapel, Buccament, which received serious injury from lightning; 2001, was contributed from the public revenue towards the erection of a chapel in the town of Layon, which has been commenced but is not yet finished; 1,1161. was expended upon the repairs of the roads.

Legislation.

Of 24 Acts passed during the year the most important were:—
1. "An Act for laying an additional Tax on Produce to provide a Fund for "Immigration Purposes." This Act levies an additional duty on exports, the proceeds of which are to be specially appropriated for the encouragement and support of immigration. The Act also requires that the treasurer shall at the expiration of every quarter transfer from the general revenue of the Colony a sum equal to one half of the aggregate amount received under this Act. The duration of the Act is limited to five years.

2. "An Act to declare the Law and Practice in cases of Escheat." This Act defines the duties of the Escheator-General in proceeding to escheat property to the Crown, and confers upon that officer the power of holding a second inquest should the finding of the jury in the first instance be adverse to the Crown. Provision is also made for the trial before the Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature of all cases where the title is in dispute. Forms of proceedings and

a docket of fees are also established.

3. "An Act to facilitate the Naturalization of Aliens." This Act authorizes the Governor in Council to consider the application of any alien resident in the Government seeking to be naturalized; and upon compliance with certain forms by the alien, to grant him a certificate under the Great Seal of the Colony, according to him all the rights of a British born subject within the Government.

4. "An Act to amend the Practice and Course of proceeding in the Court of "Chancery of St. Vincent," "An Act to make Provision for the more speedy "and efficient Despatch of Business in the Court of Chancery," and "An Act to regulate the Payment of Fees payable to the Chief Justice, Chancellor, and "Vice-Chancellor." The two former of these Acts, as their title indicates, refer to the practice and course of proceeding in the Court of Chancery of the Colony. The latter Act repeals the docket of fees now payable to the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and to the Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and establishes new dockets at considerably reduced rates. It also provides that the

fees payable to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and to the Chief Justice St. VINCENT. shall in future be received and paid into the Treasury for the public uses of the Government.

- 5. "An Act to grant Facilities for depositing small Savings at Interest with the "Security of Government for the Repayment thereof." This Act is similar in its provisions to that in force at Barbados. In consequence of the short time that it has been in existence it is impossible to say how far its intentions may be fulfilled, and whether the class of people for whose benefit it was specially enacted will avail themselves of the advantages to be derived therefrom. I entertain considerable doubts on the subject, as the native labouring class generally are not inclined to habits of thrift, and the Coolie immigrants appear indisposed to trust their money out of their own keeping. There can be no doubt, however, that the establishment of such an institution is a step in advance.
- advance.

 6. "An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Administration of "Criminal Justice." This Act did not receive the Royal Assent, and as in furtherance of the views of Her Majesty's Government, with regard to the desirability of having a well-arranged criminal code in each Colony, the law officers in Barbados have undertaken the task of adapting the consolidated statutes of 1861 to the circumstances of that Island, all further local legislation upon this subject was postponed at the suggestion of the Governor-in-Chief until the nature of the bills passed in Barbados could be promulgated in this Colony.
- 7. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of St. Vincent and its Dependencies." This very important Act proposes a radical change in the form of Government of the Colony to that which has been in existence since the year 1763, subsequent to which period the Government has consisted of the Governor, a Legislative Council of 12 members, and a House of Assembly of 19 members returned by the people. In the present Act the existing Legislative Council and House of Assembly are abolished, and in lieu thereof provision is made for the establishment of a single Legislative Chamber, composed of 13 members, 7 to be elected by the people, 3 to be ex-officio members, and 3 to be nominated by the Governor, the Speaker being elected by the House. The principle of this measure having been objected to by Her Majesty's Government on the grounds that a predominance of the elective element existed, an amended bill was passed in the early portion of the present year, reducing the number of the Chamber to 12, 6 to be nominated and 6 to be elected, and vesting in the Governor the appointment of the President, with a double or casting vote.

 In passing a measure of this nature the Legislature of St. Vincent has but

followed the example of other Colonies in the West Indies, to whom experience had shown that the machinery hitherto employed was of too complicated and cumbrous a description to be adapted to the exigencies of the present state of affairs in these Islands. The difficulty experienced in the choice of suitable persons to hold seats in the Legislative Council, arising from the want of resident landed proprietors and persons of independence and ability, was making itself daily more felt. The number of those qualified and willing to accept a seat in the House of Assembly was also circumscribed. The material of the House was accordingly deteriorated, and, in many instances, questions were determined not in accordance with the general views of the members, but with those of a party limited in numbers, but from their influence and superior intelligence in a position to bias the opinions of those members incapable of judging for themselves. The consequence of this was that a one-sided policy has in many instances prevailed to the neglect of the interests of the community at large. A disinclination was shown to anything in the shape of progressive improvement, a spirit of reluctance was apparent on more than one occasion on the part of the Assembly to meet at all, and as a rule much apathy and indifference characterized the routine of their proceedings. The injurious effects consequent upon a system of this nature at length became so patent even to the members of the House of Assembly themselves, that a resolution was passed by that branch to the effect that, in their opinion, it was advisable that the form of government in this Colony should be assimilated to that of a Crown colony, but that previously to discussing the question a dissolution of the House should take place. The House was accordingly dissolved, but at the elections the popular feeling ran so strongly against the entire abandonment of the representative element that members, with a view to secure

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Sr. VINCENT.

their election, were forced to pledge themselves at the hustings to discountenance any measure having for its object the conversion of this Colony into a Crown Hence the adoption of the measure as originally passed, and which was considered to be an equitable medium between the representative system and the form of Government in existence in Crown colonies. There is one feature in the case to which particular attention is due, viz., that the proposal of a change in the local constitution emanated solely from the popular branch, and that during no part of the discussion consequent thereon was any Government influence brought to bear.

8. "An Act to repeal sundry Acts, and to amend the Law relating to the Election " of Representatives to serve in the Legislative Assembly." This Act is supplementary to the one above reported upon, and provides for the election of members to serve in the single Chamber, and contains the following novel

features:

1. The Island with its dependencies is formed into one constituency.

The town of Kingstown is to be the only place of election.
 The system of voting papers is established.

These provisions were introduced with the view of simplifying the system, which was considered too elaborate, regard being had to the limited number of registered voters in the rural districts, and the very small proportion of that number that avail themselves of their electoral privileges. As, however, Her Majesty's Government took exception to these changes, an amended Bill was passed in which the system hitherto in force is reverted to, the changes in the limits of the electoral districts being made to suit the reduction in the number of members to be returned under the Constitution Act, 1867.

9. "An Act to lay further Tonnage Dues on Vessels arriving in this Government." This Act makes permanent the imposition of an additional tonnage duty of 4d. per ton on vessels arriving in the Colony, which duty has been hitherto collected under the provisions of enactments passed only with limited duration.

"An Act to provide for the appropriation of the casual Revenue of the Crown arising from escheated Estates." This Act provides that all casual revenues of the Crown, except droits of the Crown and of the Admiralty which may be paid into the Treasury, shall be at the disposal of the Legislature. It provides also how claimants may proceed to establish their claims to any such monies after payment into the Treasury, and that when any claim is proved the amount thereof shall be repaid under the order of the Governor in Council out of the general

11. "An Act to impose certain Taxes to be appropriated to the Support of a "Detachment of Her Majesty's Troops." The Act, in my opinion hardly secondary in importance, as far as the future prosperity of the Colony goes, to that which proposes so marked a change in the form of its government, is intended to raise a sum for the maintenance of a company of Her Majesty's European troops in this Colony by the imposition of a tax on lands cultivated and in pasture, on houses, on incomes, and of 1 per cent. ad valorem on the total amount of the imports of the Colony. The amount estimated to be raised under the Act is 4,000l. per annum, being the sum required by the Imperial Government for the maintenance

of a company of white troops.

The moral effect caused by the presence of a small detachment of white troops towards the establishment of a feeling of security in the minds of the respectable proportion of the community can be but slightly appreciated in a country where a diversity of race does not exist. The apprehensions entertained in the year 1854, when the troops were removed from the Island, and the reasons for such apprehensions, are ably set forth in the Despatches of the then Lieutenant-Governor Sir R. MacDonnell. That a cause existed for such a feeling of distrust was subsequently apparent on several occasions, when a determined resistance to the law was shown by the lower orders, ebullitions of popular excitement which culminated in the very serious riots that took place in September 1862. It is true our internal resources are in a better position than probably they ever were for the We have a tolerably efficient police force of 50 men, preservation of the peace. and a corps of militia and volunteers numbering 350. But it must be borne in mind how much better suited a force of the latter sort is to act as auxiliaries to regular troops than as an independent body. Neither must the fact be lost sight of that a majority of the material of which this force is composed is necessarily taken from the very class likely to be influenced by local prejudices. As a consequence

to the feeling of personal security produced by the presence of a body of troops there can be little doubt that the value of property will be greatly enhanced, additional capital will probably be employed, and a possibility exists that further inducements may arise to attract the residence of landed proprietors, without which I see little hope of any decided progress in the social or moral condition of the lower orders; and, though perhaps it may be thought of comparatively minor moment, the addition to the local society derived from the presence of even the limited number of officers attached to a single company of troops will be sensibly felt. That these advantages will be acquired at a considerable cost to the Colony may be estimated from the fact that a sum equal to one-fifth of the entire previous revenue has been appropriated for the purpose, but I am by no means prepared to admit that the sacrifice is disproportionate to the value of the object to be attained.

Political Franchise.

The number of registered voters at the last election was only 474 out of a population of 32,000, and of this number only 250 availed themselves of their electoral privileges. This circumstance will indicate how little interest is taken by the mass of the people in the choice of their representatives, more particularly where this apathy showed itself on the occasion of a general election consequent upon a dissolution of the Legislature for the express purpose of obtaining the views of the community at large upon a question of so much importance as a radical change in the form of government of the Colony. A reference to the Blue Book of 1865 will show that the number of registered voters at the date of the general election held in the year 1862 was 1,386, of which 1,045 came to the poll. If a comparison, therefore, is drawn between 1862 and 1866, it will appear that in the former year there were nearly three times as many registered electors and four times as many voters.

Councils and Assemblies.

The only addition to the Executive Council was Mr. Edward J. Cloke, who was appointed to the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. John J. Hughes. The latter gentleman was the senior member of the Executive Council, and by virtue of that office succeeded to the administration of the government on various occasions during the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor. Mr. Hughes also held a high position in the mercantile community, and his loss has been much felt.

The Rev. H. W. Laborde, Rural Dean, and Mr. Robert Sutherland, Stipendiary Magistrate, were appointed to the Legislative Council in place of Mr. John Audain and

Mr. J. J. Hughes, deceased.

Civil Establishment.

There was no addition to the Civil Establishment. Major Charles Creagh succeeded Mr. A. Hobson as Inspector-General of Police. Dr. Arnott was appointed Surgeon of the gaol vice Dr. Sprott, whose leave of absence had expired; and Mr. J. S. Wall as Gaoler vice Mr. Atkins, deceased.

Advancing years and debilitated health compelled Mr. Chief Justice Sharpe to resign his appointment on the 31st of July, after a period of 20 years' service. The handsome provision made by the Legislature, in the shape of a retiring allowance of 500l. per annum, sufficiently indicates the estimation in which Mr. Sharpe was held by the community as a functionary of the highest class. Temporary provision was made for the performance of the Chief Justice's duties during the interval that elapsed before the nomination of his successor by the appointment of Mr. J. Hampden King, one of the Justices of the Court of Appeal in Barbados.

Population,

I place very little reliance on the accuracy of these returns, which, however, profess only to show the number of baptisms, marriages, and burials. The Report of the Registrar-General is appended,* from which it appears that the total number of births in the year was 1,594, and of deaths 1,059, against 1,456 births and 1,296 deaths in the previous year, showing an increase in births of 138 and a decrease in deaths of 237, or an actual gain in favour of 1866 of 375. The proportion of illegitimate births during the year was $62\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., being in excess of that of the previous year. The Registrar states his inability, from the lack of necessary information in the returns, to report upon the proportion contributed by this unfortunate class towards the general mortality among infants.

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Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

These returns do not show any result from the working of the Savings' Bank Act, the provisions of which only came into force at the commencement of the present year.

There are 10 Friendly Societies, of which four are in connexion with the Established Church, three with the Wesleyan persuasion, one with the Roman Catholic Church, and two unconnected with any religious denomination. belonging to these societies is 1,238. The total number of members

The total number of immigrants under indenture were 476 Coolies, 66 Portuguese, and 83 Africans. On the 16th June 256 Madras Coolies passed from indenture, having served five years, being the first instance where the indentures of labourers of this class have expired. The system still continues to work admirably, employers and employed being mutually satisfied, and the sanitary state of the immigrants favourable. Indeed, it is to the introduction of the system that I ascribe the present flourishing state of the agricultural interests. In acknowledging the receipt of the Immigration Agent's Report up to the 31st December, the Secretary of State was pleased to say:—" I have noticed with pleasure the satisfactory condition of the immigrants in St. Vincent indicated by " this report."

Ecclesiastical.

The Colony, for ecclesiastical purposes, is divided into four parishes, with an area of 201 square miles. There is a rector to each parish, and a perpetual curate to the district of St. Paul in the parish of St. George, and assistant curates to the parishes of St. George and Charlotte. The parish church of Kingstown will contain 1,250 persons, 800 being There are eight chapels connected with the the average attendance on Sundays. Established Church, three Roman Catholic, and 11 Wesleyan. There has been no addition to the establishment since the last return.

Education.

The total number of schools in connexion with the Church of England were 26, and the number of scholars 1,560, being an increase of two in the number of schools, and of 194 in the number of scholars. The schools in connexion with the Wesleyan body were twelve, being the same number as returned in the previous year, but there is an increase of 220 scholars. There are three schools in connexion with the Roman Catholic Church with an attendance of 136 scholars, showing an increase of 37 over the

The cause of education in the Colony is aided by a grant of 700l. from the Public

Funds, distributed among the several denominations as follows, viz.:-

425 Church of England 200 Wesleyan -75 Roman Catholic -700

The mode of instruction adopted in all the schools, with the exception of the Kingstown Grammar School, is purely elementary. At the Kingstown Grammar School, which is under the superintendence of a clergyman of the Church of England, the higher branches of education, including classics and mathematics, form the subject of instruction. Among the lower orders the main cause of a want of progress is the impossibility of ensuring continuous attendance on the part of children arrived at a certain age, as, from the little weight attached by their parents to the advantages of education, the children are, as soon as their services become remunerative, put to labour in the field to the neglect of all other considerations.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 158,153l., being an increase of 37,009l. over the imports of the previous year. The value of imports from Great Britain was 61,499l. against 35,817l., showing an increase of 25,682l.; from British Colonies, 92,699l. against 78,247l., showing an increase of 14,452l.; from foreign ports, 3,959l. against 7.080l., being a decrease of 3,121l. I attribute the cause of the marked increase in the value of the imports from Great Britain partly to the non-arrival until the commencement of the following year of some vessels expected at the close of the year 1865, and to the necessity that existed for replacing stock destroyed in the fire which took place in the month of October. To the latter cause alone must be ascribed the reason for the increase in the imports from the British Colonies.

The total value of exports for the year was 194,173l. against 147,852l. in the previous St. Vincent year, being an increase of 46,321l., the exports to the United Kingdom alone showing an increase of 42,889l.; a reference to the return of exports clearly indicates the reasons for this increase.

The amount of sugar exported iu 1866 was 10,985 hogsheads of 17 cwt. each, being an increase of 2,529 hogsheads over the previous year; of rum, 1,796 puncheons of 90 gallons against 1,794 in 1865; of molasses, 1,063 puncheons of 90 gallons against 916, showing an increase of 147 puncheons; of arrowroot, 14,645 barrels of 180 lbs. against 7,433 barrels, showing an increase of 7,212 barrels; of cocoa, 26,640 lbs. against 17,440 lbs., showing an increase of 9,200 lbs.; of cotton, 82,600 lbs. against 117,100 lbs., being a decrease of 34,500 lbs. It will be seen, therefore, that with the exception of the latter article there has been an increase under every head of exports. The proportionate increase in sugar is very considerable, being over a third of the average of the quantity exported for several consecutive years. The crop of arrowroot, which ranks in importance next to sugar, has very nearly doubled itself. Notwithstanding the depreciated value of this article in the English market considerably more attention is paid to its cultivation, in most instances at a loss to the small growers, who, in devoting their time to this means of earning a livelihood, entirely overlook the amount that should be deducted from the gross receipts to compensate for the value of their labour. An extraordinary propitious season contributed largely towards the increase of the sugar crop, but improvements in the style of culture and increased facilities in procuring labour, chiefly owing to the introduction of the Coolie immigrants, had no small share in producing this favourable result.

Annexed is a comparative statement of the sugar crop for the past five years .-

							Hhds.
1862	-		-		-	-	8,410
1863		-		-		_	8,746
1864	-		-		-	-	8,168
1865		-			3		8,456
1866	-		-				10,985

Gaols and Prisoners.

There were 14 convictions for offences against the person and property during the year, of which four were for common assault, thus reducing the number of those con victed of more heinous crimes to 10, which contrasts favourably with the return of the previous year, which showed a total of 18. The convictions by the magistrates amounted to 367, of which 345 were of black and coloured persons, and 22 white, being a slight increase over the commitments for similar offences in the previous year. It is with much regret that I have to revert to the necessity that arose for carrying out the extreme sentence of the law in the case of Mary James, who was found guilty of the murder of her child under circumstances of a revolting nature.

General.

A reference to the statistical returns, commented upon in their proper place, shows the condition of the Colony to be satisfactory in a financial and commercial point of view. The revenue exceeded that of the last 10 years, and the export of sugar showed an increase of more than one-third of the average crop. Measures were passed for an entire change in the form of government of the Colony, and for the maintenance therein of a detachment of white troops. Notwithstanding the prevalence in the Island of St. Thomas simultaneously of small pox, yellow fever, and cholera, this Colony was entirely free from disease of a serious character. It was found necessary, however, to establish a rigid quarantine against St. Thomas. The only event of an extraordinary nature was a fire which occurred on the night of the 29th October, and was, I regret to say, attended with disastrous consequences, principally to the mercantile community, property to the extent of 40,000l. having been consumed. A Commission appointed by me to inquire into the circumstances connected with this fire reported its origin as The losses to the public were considerable; the entire range of purely accidental. buildings in the ordnance yard, which were handed over to the Civil Government in 1854 upon the withdrawal of the troops, were, with the exception of one of the Police Barracks and a gun shed, consumed. These buildings comprised a Police Barrack, Armoury, Bonding Store, and the Offices of the Postmaster, Auditor, and Treasurer. Temporary accommodation has been provided for these officers, but, with the exception of the Police Barrack, no further attempt has been made towards the restoration of these

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St. VINCENT, buildings, though the subject was forcibly brought to the notice of the Legislature in my opening speech at the commencement of the following session. Equal disregard was paid to the necessity which, as I urgently pleaded, existed for adopting measures for the introduction of a proper supply of water in the town of Kingstown, and for providing fire engines and apparatus. The Colony had never suffered from a similar calamity, and to this immunity must, I presume, be ascribed the entire absence of means for meeting the emergency when it arose. A considerable portion of the mercantile part of the town has been already rebuilt.

I have, &c. GEORGE BERKELEY.

(Signed) His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

GRENADA. No. 9,

GRENADA.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 417.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, July 20, 1867. My LORD DUKE, I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1866, together with a report from the Administrator on the condition and prospects of the Island.

Considerable vigour has been manifested in both the Legislative and Executive departments of Grenada during the past year, and several of the local establishments have been put on a sounder and more efficient footing, and withal the finances of the Colony have been maintained in a satisfactory state. But your Grace will regret to perceive, what has been very evident to me for some time, that Grenada is fast passing out of the category of sugar-producing colonies.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAMES WALKER.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

(No. 60.)

Government House, Grenada, June 27, 1867. SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1866, together with my report thereon.

Revenue and Expenditure.

- 1. The returns usually inserted in the Grenada Blue Book merely show the receipts and payments at the Treasury during the year, and do not therefore exhibit a complete statement of the financial condition of the Colony. In these returns the receipts and payments made on account of the service of the previous year are blended with and made to appear as forming a part of the settled revenue and expenditure of the year in which the amounts have been actually collected or expended, and no reference whatever is made to the amount of uncollected revenue at the close of the year, or to the claims outstanding against the Treasury at that period. I have therefore appended to the Blue Book a financial statement in which the monetary transactions at the Treasury during the year under notice are fully set out, and which at the same time presents an accurate account of the proper revenue and expenditure of the year.
- 2. From the financial returns given in the Blue Book it would be inferred that there was a surplus revenue of 4,950l. 6s. 2d. from 1865 available for the service of 1866. The

actual balance was, however, but 3,675l. 12s. 11d., as will appear by the subjoined GRENADA. statement.

tatement.		£		d.
Balance on hand, December 31, 1865		4,950	s. 6	2
Add revenue raised for 1865, but collected in 1866 -	die a s	1,306		
		6,256	11	7
Deduct outstanding claims of 1865 paid in 1866 -	-	2,580		8
		3,675	12	11
3. The revenue raised in 1866 was -		21,464	12	10
The total expenditure amounted to		21,517		
Showing an excess of expenditure over the amount raise	ed for			
the year of		53		3
The surplus revenue from the preceding years was, as above s	tated,	3,675	12	11
Leaving a balance available for 1867 of		3,622	11	8
The balance is, however, given in the Blue Book at - The difference is thus explained:—		4,886	4	9
Add revenue raised for 1866, but collected in 1867 -		1,631	2	3
		6,517	7	0
Deduct outstanding claims of 1866 paid in 1867 -		2,894	15	4
Surplus revenue		3,622	11	8
			Name and Address of the Owner, where	ALL PROPERTY.

4. A reduction of 4d. per gallon on rum consumed in the Colony was effected in 1866. The loss to the revenue occasioned by this reduction, estimated at 1,000l., was met by the imposition of the following additional taxes, viz.,—

Five per cent. on the amount of the import duty.

An additional duty of 6d. per gallon on the importation of gin. An increase of 2d. per acre on the first 100 acres of land.

5. The expenditure was about 2,000l. in excess of that of 1865, the principal increase being under the following heads:—

Civil Establishment.—Increase to the salaries of certain public officers.

Judicial Establishment.—Allowance to jurors and witnesses attending courts on trial of criminal cases.

Additional Grants.—For repairs of common gaol, for repairs of public roads, and for the Colony Hospital.

6. The principal permanent sources of revenue are the import and tonnage duties, fees of office, excise duty on rum, licences to sell spirits, wine, and malt. The fixed revenue is supplemented by rates and taxes granted in the annual money bill. The imposts voted for 1866 were, assessments on annual valued rental of houses, 1½ per cent. in towns, 3 per cent. in parishes, and 3s. where the rental does not amount to 10l.; tax on carts and carriages, 10s. per annum; tax on saddle horses, 20s., mules and asses, 5s.; licence to auctioneers, 20l. per annum, to pedlars, 80s. per annum; licence to carry fire-arms, 10s. Five per centum on amount of import duties. Land tax; viz.,—

For the first acre, and for every acre from 1 to 50, per acre - - 8d. From 50 to 100 - - - - - - - - - - 6d. From 100 and upwards - - - - - - - - - 1d.

7. The following taxes are raised for special purposes, and the proceeds are kept separate from the general funds of the Colony; viz.,—

Export Duty for Immigration Purposes:-

Every hogshead of sugar, 1s. 8d.; every puncheon of rum, 8d.; of molasses, 5d.; every 100 lbs. of cocoa, 2d.; and one third of the duty received on rum consumed in the Island.

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Tonnage Dues under Harbour Act:— Every vessel clearing, $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per ton.

Grenville Water Act:-

Ships, 3d. per ton; droghers, 10s. per annum. 3 per cent. on valued rental of all houses and stores amounting to 10l., and 4s. each on all under 10l. 2 per cent. on valued rental of estates stores in Grenville.

Grenville Harbour Act:-

Tax on produce shipped:—Every hogshead sugar, 1s. 2d.; every puncheon of rum or molasses, tierce of sugar, coffee, or cocoa, 7d.; bale of cotton, 9d.; bag of coffee, cotton, or cocoa, 2d.; every hogshead of rum, lime juice, or shrub, $3\frac{1}{2}d$. (These sums to be paid by both shipper and ship.)

Street Taxes :--

Three per cent. on the annual valued rental of houses in the town of St. George and Charlotte Town, and 2 per cent. in towns of St. Patrick, Grenville, and Hillsborough in Carriacou.

- 8. The total revenue of the Colony for 1866, inclusive of the special funds, was - - 25,540 1 9

 The total expenditure, also inclusive of special funds, was 26,892 16 9

 Excess of expenditure - 1,352 15 0

 The available balance to credit of the Colony on 31st December, was - - - 14,395 2 7
- 9. The taxation of the Colony for the ordinary purpose of the revenue is at the rate of 12s. 4d. per head; with the special revenues the rate is about 14s. 7d.
- 10. The cost of collection is 2,000l, or at the rate of $7\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on the revenue.
- 11. The receipts under the import duty average about 9,000*l*. per annum. About 39 per cent. of this amount is levied on articles of food, as will be seen by the following return:—

ARTICLES.	Dury.	ARTICLES.	Duty.	
Flour Fish, dried, &c Corn meal - Beef, pork, &c Rice Lard	514 105 433	Butter - Sugar, refined - Bread and biscuit - Cheese	£ 255 205 33 28 521 2,977	
	2,977		3,498	

The aggregate value of the foregoing articles is 35,000l, showing the duty to be nearly 10 per cent. ad valorem. The duty on rice is 2s. per 100 lbs., or at the rate of 14 per cent. on its value, and the duty on corn meal is 2s. per barrel, equal to 10 per cent. on the value. The duty on wine, spirits, and malt realized 572l., at the rate of $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the total value being returned at 4,219l. Tobacco pays but $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. The quantity imported in 1866 was over 17 tons; the duty amounted to 241l. Silks, cottons, linens, ironmongery, estates stores, and other articles not enumerated in the schedule of duties pay a moderate tax of 5 per cent. ad valorem.

12. A reduction of the duty on rice and on corn meal, the first-named article forming the principal food of the Indian immigrants, and the latter being extensively used by the native labourers during a scarcity of ground provisions, would be highly desirable.

The effect of these reductions on the revenue would be more than compensated by an additional impost on tobacco, and by the re-adjustment of the duties on wines, spirits, and malt.

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Local Revenues and Special Funds.

13. The following table will exhibit the receipts and disbursements under the above head:—

		Ba from	lance 186	_	Receipts received in 1866.			Tot	al.		Expe	nditu 1866.		31st D	hand ecen 866.	
G.		£		d.	£	s.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Streets -	-	255	0.00	11	224		-	479	-	4	251	18	3	227	14	1
Water Fund -		1,002	0	1	182	-	1517	1,184	9	1	75	4	5	1,109	4	8
Harbour Fund	- 30	274		6	88	3	4	362	12	10		_		362	12	10
Rents of Buildings	-	80	5	-	163	0	5	243	5	7	151	17	2	91	8	5
Immigration -	-	8,130	2	10	3,673	15	9	11,803	18	7	4,507	11	9	7,296	-	10
Post Office -	•	31	14	11	351	15	0	383	9	11	342		1	1	13	
	4.5	9,774	2	5	4,683	5	11	14,457	8	4	5,329	7	8	9,128	0	8
Church Lands -	-6	116	0	7	36	17	2	152	17	9	57	10	0	95	7	9

Public Debt.

14. The public debt (incurred for immigration purposes) is 9,000l.; this includes a local loan of 2,000l., which will be paid off in June 1867. The loan of 7,000l. was contracted in the year 1858. The sum of 350l. is annually invested to form a sinking fund for the payment of this debt. The amount invested up to 31st December last was 3,353l. 1s. 7d.

Roads and Public Buildings.

15. The superintendence of the repairs of the roads is vested in road commissioners, three being appointed for each parish by the Council and Assembly. Their term of office extends over a period of three years. They are entirely independent of the executive, and cannot be removed by the Governor for neglect of duty or misbehaviour in their office. These commissioners are unpaid, and having their own private avocations to attend to, are not in a position to devote much of their time to the duty of superintending the repairs of the roads.

The entire length of road in this Colony does not exceed 126 miles. The amount spent on the roads for the year 1866 was 2,357l. 2s. The amount expended during the last five years has been 9,290l. 11s. 3d., or at the rate of 74l. per mile; notwithstanding this heavy expenditure, the highways are in a very bad condition. The roads have been much deteriorated since the abolition in the year 1863 of the office of Surveyor of Public Works. The repairs are, with few exceptions, effected under contracts, but there is no responsible person charged with the duty of inspecting and reporting upon the work of the contractor. Macadamization is unknown, the soft mud, taken from the trenches and ditches, is deposited in the centre of the road in lieu of metal, most of the roads are in consequence rendered perfect quagmires, and in many places all but impassable during the rainy season.

- 16. A sum of 300l. was granted by the Money Bill for building a causeway over the River Antoine. The work has not yet been commenced.
- 17. Considerable damage was occasioned to the public roads and bridges in the parish of St. Patrick by the heavy rains of the 1st December last; two bridges were swept away by the flood, and three sustained great injury. The Assembly requested me to appoint a competent person to superintend the restoration of the bridges and the repair of the roads. I did so, and the work is now nearly completed. The cost of effecting these repairs will be about 1,000*l*.
- 18. The public buildings are under the charge of a joint Committee of the two Houses.
- 19. A contract has been taken for the erection of an additional wing to the common gaol.

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- 20. A sum of 960l. was granted for the erection of a parsonage in the parish of St. Andrew. This sum remaining undrawn at the close of the year, has been re-voted in the Money Bill for the year 1867.
- 21. The whole of the public buildings of the Colony are in a dilapidated condition. The want of a resposible officer to superintend the repairs of the public works is much felt.

Legislation.

22. Thirteen Acts were passed during the year; several of them are of great importance, such as the following, viz.:—

The Act for carrying into execution in Grenada the West Indian Incumbered Estates Act.

The Act for settling on a permanent basis the Salaries of the Public Officers of the Colony.

The Act regulating the carriage of Mails by the French Packets.

The Act for providing for the reception of sick indigent Coolies at the Colony Hospital.

The Act for annexing certain Lands to the Common Gaol.

The amended Police Act.

The Act for authorizing the building of a Parsonage in the Parish of St. Andrew. The Act for facilitating the performance of the duties of Justice of the Peace with regard to summary Convictions and Orders.

23. The remaining five Acts are on the following subjects:-

For repealing the Second Clause of Act No. 346, relating to the duties of Justices of the Peace. This clause dealt with offences committed on the high seas, and was therefore repealed at the instance of Her Majesty's Government.

An Act for amending the Liquor Licence Act.

The usual annual Money Bill.

An Act for granting 200l. to the Sufferers by the Hurricane at Turk's Island. An Act to establish a Scale of Fees for duties performed under the Second Section of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Civil Establishment.

- 24. The civil establishment of the Colony has, by an Act passed in the month of August last, been placed on a fixed and satisfactory footing. The salaries of the police magistrates, coroners, postmaster, clerks of the magistrates, and of several other public officers, heretofore dependent on annual or triennial bills, have now been permanently fixed.
- 25. Permanent additions have been made to the official incomes of several of the public officers. The salary of the Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General has been raised from 400*l*. to 450*l*., and that of the Auditor of Public Accounts from 200*l*. to 300*l*., and a small increase has been effected in the pay of the district revenue officers, clerks of the magistrates, and of the holders of some minor appointments.
- 26. An office for the registration of births and deaths has been constituted under the direction of the Colonial Secretary, as Registrar-General; and district registrars have been appointed for the several parishes in the Colony.
- 27. Three junior clerkships for the offices of the Colonial Secretary, Provost Marshal, and Auditor of Public Accounts have been created.
- 28. The office of Inspector of Police has been re-established at a salary of 250*l*. per annum, and adequate provision has been made for increasing the strength and efficiency of the force under his command.

The police force consists at present of-

1 inspector.

1 superintending serjeant.

6 serjeants.

39 privates.

47 Total.

It is distributed as follows:-

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	Inspector.	Super- intending Serjeant,	Serjeants.	Privates.	Total.
St. George, head quarters -	1	1	4	20	26
St. David's	_	_	_	2	2
St. Andrew's	_		1	4	5
St. Patrick's	-	_	_	5	5
St. Mark's		-	_	2	2
St. John's		_	1	3	4
Island of Carriacou -	- 4		-	3	3
Totals -]	1	6	39	47

29. Changes of some importance were made during the year in the holders of appointments in the Treasury Department. Mr. Beveridge, the Treasury Accountant of Antigua, was appointed Treasurer of this Colony, and assumed his duties in the month of April. The Chief Clerk having been removed from the public service, his place was filled by Mr. Thomas Bell, a revenue officer. Mr. James Anton, also a revenue officer, was promoted to the office of Postmaster, and Mr. James McDonell and Mr. James Robertson were appointed to the Treasury Department in succession to Messrs. Bell and Anton. The office of Auditor was filled up by the appointment of Mr. A. Gall, but he did not arrive in Grenada until after the close of the year.

Population.

30. The population was estimated in the return for 1865 at 36,955, and in that for 1866 at 35,672. This apparent diminution is not, however, to be accepted as exhibiting an actual decrease in the population, as a reference to the tables will show that there has been an actual increase of 750, viz., 260 by immigration, and 490 by excess of births over deaths. The difference arises from a correction of the population tables since 1861, which the registrar has been able to make from information acquired by the working of the Registration Act. In the absence of other data, the estimate of 36,955 was obtained by adding the number of immigrants introduced into the Colony, and the excess of baptisms over burials since the year 1861, to the population shown by the census taken in that year. It now appears from the returns made to the Registrar-General that the number of burials does not represent much more than one half of the deaths registered during the year. This variance is thus explained by the Registrar-General:—"The "large difference between the registered deaths and burials is accounted for by the "fact, that although the law calls for a return of the number of burials performed by a " minister of religion, it yet authorizes other persons to perform the burial services, " but has not made sufficiently effectual provisions for securing a record of such burials " by such persons."

31. I append the Registrar-General's report and returns for 1866. The number of births was 1,464, of which 31 were still-born. Assuming the population of the Colony to have been 35,000 on the 1st January 1866, the birth-rate (exclusive of the still-born), would be at the rate of 4.09 per cent., or 1 to every 24.4 of the population. The deaths are registered at 943 (exclusive of the still-born), or at the rate of 2.7 per cent., or 1 to every 37.1 of the population. The marriages were 161, or 1 to every 217 of the population. Of the 1,464 births registered, 931 or nearly 64 per cent. were illegitimate. In the parish of St. Patrick 80 per cent. of the births were illegitimate. Carriacou is the only district in the Colony in which the legitimate births are in excess of the illegitimate, but even at that place the illegitimate births are in the proportion of 45 per cent.

Immigration.

32. Two hundred and sixty Indian immigrants were introduced into the Colony during the year. The total number of Indian immigrants in the Colony is 1,858, namely:-

		Males.	Females.	Total.	
Under Indenture Un-indentured -	-	887 414	280 277	1,167 691	
Totals	-	1,301	557	1,858	

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GRENADA.

Eight immigrants who had acquired their certificates of industrial residence left the Colony during the year. There has been a natural decrease of 34 in the coolie population, the deaths being 84 and the births 50.

Religion.

- 33. About 30 per cent. of the population belong to the Established Church, 60 to the Roman Catholic, 5.04 to the Wesleyans, and about 0.8 to the Church of Scotland. Hindoos and Mahomedans are in the proportion of 2.05, and the not described are about 1.3 per cent.
- 34. Liberal provision is made by the Legislature for the support of the Established Church.

The Island is divided into five benefices, viz. :-

1. Town and Parish of St. George. One church, one chapel, and one licensed place of worship, served by the rector and a curate.

Average attendance at church and chapels 341. The salary of the rector of this parish has been increased to 350l. per annum, and an allowance has been made for another curate.

2. St. John and St. Mark .- Two churches served by the rector. Average attendance 295.

3. St. Patrick.—One church served by the rector. Average attendance 180.

4. St. Andrew and St. David.—Two churches and one chapel, served by the rector and a curate. Average attendance at churches and chapels 395.

5. Carriacou.—One church served by the rector. Average attendance 400.

The total attendance at churches and chapels was 1,611. The total cost of the

Church establishment is 2,206l.

35. An allowance of 264l. per annum, with 30l. for house rent and 20l. for a precentor, is made to the minister of the Church of Scotland. He has charge of two chapels; one in the town of St. George, the average attendance at which is about 80; the other in the parish of St. Patrick, but no service was, I believe, performed at the latter place of worship during the year 1866.

36. There are eight churches and chapels, and five priests belonging to the Church of Rome. The average attendance is 3,790.

37. The Wesleyans have five chapels, which are served by one minister. The average attendance is 720.

38. No provision is made by the Legislature for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic clergy or the Wesleyan minister. Grants are, however, made from time to time for the repairs of the churches, chapels, and schoolrooms belonging to these denominations.

Education.

39. The schools receiving assistance from the annual grant of 1,200l. for educational

purposes are the following, viz.:-

The Grammar and Normal Schools, under the charge of a head master at 300l. per annum, a second master at 100%, and a master for the normal school at 80% per annum. The head master is ex officio Inspector of all schools supported wholly or in part from the Education Fund.

The Central School.

Twelve parish schools in connexion with the Church of England. Seven parish schools in connexion with the Church of Rome.

Five parish schools in connexion with the Wesleyan Mission.

There is no school in connexion with the Presbyterian Church. An Infant School in the parish of St. George is supported by an annual grant of 151. from the Church Land revenues.

40. The grant was in 1866 distributed thus,-

				7941 1	110	- 15
				£1,182	10	0
"Grammar and Normal ",				562	10	0
"Wesleyan "		-	•	140	0	0
" Roman Catholic "			-	210	0	0
To Church of England Schoo	ls -			270	0	0
				£	S.	d.

41. At the request of the House of Assembly a Commission was appointed in the month of June 1866 to inquire into the state of the Grammar and Normal Schools, and the working of the educational system of the Colony. A copy of the report presented by the Commissioners is annexed.*

42. The Grammar and Normal Schools were established by a local Act in 1860, and after having been closed from 1862 were reopened in 1865. The number of scholars attending on its re-establishment was upwards of 30, in December 1866 it had fallen as low as 7. The Commissioners reported that they found "it difficult to arrive at the " cause or causes for the decrease, particularly as the examiners to whom allusion has " already been made, report to your Honour that they have no hesitation in expressing " their opinion that the school is well and thoroughly taught. The evidence, too, which " the Commissioners have taken from parents whose children are or were at the school " is favourable to it, and no complaints from any quarter have reached them. The Commissioners conclude, therefore, that the paucity of pupils is occasioned partly from the school fees being higher than most persons in this community are able to pay, "and partly from the absence of accommodation for boarders." It was suggested by the Commissioners that a lower scale of fees should be fixed, and that arrangements should be made for the reception of boarders, in order that the school shall be a boarding school as well as a day school, and thus extend its advantages, which are now confined to the town of St. George, to the country generally. The recommendation of the Commissioners with regard to the reduction of the terms has been carried out, and a new

The former and the present rates are as follows:-

scale has been established.

Present Scale.		Former Scale.									
For English	Per Annum. £ s. d. 2 10 0	For English English, Classics, or Mathe-	Per Annum. £ s. d. 4 0 0								
" Greek each , Latin	1 5 0 extra.	English, Classics, and Mathe-	8 0 0								

The masters of the Grammar School are not disposed to take boarders, and the Board of Education have not been successful in their endeavours to establish a licensed boarding house in connexion with the school. I may add that an increase in the number of pupils has attended the reduction of the rates. The school at the present date numbers 20 boys.

42. The Central School established in 1826, under the charge of the Society for the Education of the Poor, ranks next in importance after the Grammar School. It was formerly supported by voluntary subscriptions and donations, and annual grant of 801. per annum from the Colonial Revenue. On the opening of the Normal School the Government grant was reduced to 60l. No subscriptions or donations have been received for many years past, and the school is now supported from rents received from certain premises belonging to the Society and from the Government grant. The school is well conducted, and is directed by a competent master.

43. From the remarks of the Commissioners on the subject of the Parish Schools, it must be inferred that the mass of the labouring class have not yet learnt to appreciate sufficiently the importance of education, and in consequence do not take advantage of the opportunities which the local Government has afforded them for the moral and religious training of their children by the establishment of 27 schools in the Colony.

The Commissioners observe, "at present children are kept for weeks from school, " when their parents require their services either at home or in their gardens. In many " instances it seems to be thought a favour to the teacher to send the children to school. Often when the school fee is demanded, the child will not return for a considerable period." And again, "there are throughout the country, and especially on plantations and villages, hundreds of children to be seen in a state almost, if not entirely, of

"nudity, and growing up without attending any school." The amount of fees collected in the schools receiving aid from the Board of Education was only 1991. 7s. 7d. for the year 1866, or at the rate of 2s. 10d. for each pupil. These schools may therefore be considered as being almost entirely supported by the Government. The increase of the salaries of the masters of the Parish Schools, so as to ensure the services of a more efficient class of teachers, is strongly recommended in the report; but this and the other important suggestions made in it cannot be adopted with the means at the disposal of the Board of Education, and it is evidently hopeless to expect any pecuniary assistance towards the maintenance of the schools from the parents of the children. The few labourers who send their children to school will not pay more than a merely nominal sum for their education, and even that they pay grudgingly. I fear that no scheme for the education of the children of the working class will have any reasonable prospect of success in Grenada, unless the attendance at school of children between certain ages is made compulsory, and a special rate levied in the several parishes for the support of the schools.

44. The number of children attending the public schools in 1866 was 1,418, showing a decrease of 36 as compared with the previous year.

There has been a decrease—

In the Grammar S	school of				-	16
" Normal	,,	-	-		-	6
" R. Catholic	,,	-	-7	•	-	16
" Wesleyan	"	-	-	× -	**	82
					•	
						120
In the Church of	England	Schools	there	has been	an	
increase of -		-	-		-	84
· · · · · ·	Total de	crease	-		-	36
						-

The number of children in the Colony who ought to be under instruction is not under 8,000. The aggregate attendance at all schools, including the private schools, cannot be set down at more than 1,600. It thus follows that four-fifths of the children in the Colony are being allowed to grow up in ignorance. The Wesleyan is the only denomination which appears to take an interest in Sunday schools; they have five under their charge. In the large and important district containing the town and parish of St. George there is no Sunday school attached to the Church of England. There is, I believe, but one Sunday school in the Colony in connexion with the church. The Roman Catholics have no Sunday schools.

45. An Act was passed in the year 1839 for regulating

Weights and Measures.

This enactment adopts the imperial standard established by the Statute 4th and 5th William IV. cap. 4. It provides that the standard to be procured should be examined by a Committee of both Houses of the Legislature, and then placed in custody of the Clerk of the Market. This was considered by the then Secretary of State for the Colonies as "an assumption on the part of the Legislature of one of the undoubted prerogatives of the Executive Government," and he directed that the Act should be amended in that respect. It has not been amended to this date, but no Order in Council has ever been issued for confirming or disallowing it. No Committee has, however, been appointed by the Houses as contemplated by the Act, and consequently the standards have not been examined. This omission has rendered the law inoperative, and the old weights and measures continue in use.

Imports and Exports.

- 46. The total value of the imports was 122,255l., showing an increase over 1865 of 8,144l.
- 47. The subjoined return will show the quantity and value of the principal articles imported during the last two years.

67

						186	5.				1		186	6.		
Artic	cles.		Ç)uant	ity.		Va	lue	e.		()uan	tity.	Va	lue.	
Bread -	- Tribu	- Weight	T. 17	()	1.	lbs. 19	£ 383	3	s. 7	d. 4	T. 30	5	q. lbs. 3 1	£ 721		d. 5
Flour -	-	- Barrels	T.	7,62 c.	25 q.	lbs.	10,048	}	9	1	T.	6,8 c.	68 q. lbs.	10,269	9	0
Fish, dried ,, pickled	-	- Weight - Barrels	317	14 57	7	26	8,234 821		3 16	1 6	415	13 5,9	2 24	8,399 722		5
Cheese - Corn meal	-	- Weight	T. 3	c. 11 27	0	lbs. 14	262 246		18	4 2	T. 4		q. lbs. 1 20	359 1,068	12	9
Meat, salted	-7	- "	T.	1,30	08	lbs.	4,840			8	T.	9. c.	59 q. lbs.	4,565	12	0
Rice - Tobacco, leaf		- Weight	185 23	15	3	9 23	2,736 1,765	2	11	1 11	221 17	3 5	1 24 2 16	3,485 1,406	13	0
Butter Lard -	-	- "	28 12	17	2 2	9 19	3,030		7	10	28			3,273	19	5
Malt -	-	- Hhds. - Dozens	Т.	3,3	42	lbs.	} 1,775	2 :	17	4	{ T.	3,7	44 '12 q. lbs.	} 1,968	19	0
Coals -		- Weight	4,892	0	0 0	0	2,440		0	0	5,986 53	0 8	0 0	3,324 1,418		
Soap - Gin - Other spirits		- Gallons	01	5,9	16		660)	6	3 10	00	1,1	04 15	151	3	5
Wine - Wood, white pine	-	- "- Feet	-	66			3,26- 1,98	4		3			97	1,833	3 2	
" pitch pine		- "		2			1,00		17	î			35	281		

48. The value of the exports is returned at 113,237l., being 4,708l. less than in the previous year. This decrease is occasioned by the falling off in the production of cotton, and by the diminished rate at which the value of sugar has been calculated in the returns. There has been a large increase in the quantity of sugar exported as compared with 1865.

49. The direction of trade and the value of imports and exports for the last five years is given below.

IMPORTS.

Countries.	1862,			186	1863.			1864.			65.		1866.			
United Kingdom -	£ 47,749	s. 4	d. 1	£ 36,944	s. 1	d. 10	£ 65,832	s. 3	d. 7	£ 56,919	s. 7	d. 2	£ 52,115	s. 0	d. 4	
British Colonies -	45,048	19	7	44,222	18	1	43,155	11	4	44,899	18	0	56,164	4	9	
United States	18,222	15	4	8,171	13	4	11,307	8	2	9,917	1	2	12,140	8	4	
Other Foreign Countries	1,497	9	2	736	3	5	1,018	16	1	2,374	13	10	1,835	16	11	
Totals -	112,518	11	2	90,074	16	8	121,313	19	2	114,111	0	6	122,255	10	4	

EXPORTS.

Countries.	186	186	1863.			1864.			1865.				1866.		
United Kingdom -	£ 80,557	s. 4	d. 3	£ 102,701	17	d. 3		s. 14	d. 3	£ 97,476	s. 18	<i>d.</i> 8	£ 98,687	s. 12	d.
British Colonies -	5,088	12	2	6,058	18	1	4,900	12	7	14,335	18	11	12,569	1	1
United States	1,116	5	10	33	15	0	936	19	10	335	5	6	417	8	10
Other Foreign Countries	1,098	14	6	2,282	17	6	7,006	14	10	5,897	7	11	1,563	2	9
Totals -	87,860	16	9	112,477	7	10	153,214	15	6	118,045	11	0	113,237	5	8

SHIPPING.

50. There are three ports of entry in the Colony, viz., St. George, Grenville, and Hillsborough. The number of vessels entered and cleared for the years 1865 and 1866 stands thus:—

			En	TERED.				reff to the	CLI	EARED.		
Years.	With	Cargoes.	In	Ballast.	2	Cotal.	With	Cargoes.	In]	Ballast.	7	otal.
	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.
1865 -	357	15,417	41	1,514	398	16,931	362	12,545	37	3,689	399	16,234
1866 -	323	15,130	25	869	348	15,999	337	13,516	32	906	369	14,422
Increase		2 1 1 1 1						971	15.		_	-
Decrease	34	287	16	645	50	932	25		5	2,783	30	1,812

51. Twenty-eight vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 421 tons, are registered at the port of St. George.

Agriculture.

52. The returns of crops, produce acreage under cultivation, &c. given in the Blue Book are, from the imperfect manner in which they are made up, only likely to lead to a false impression on the subject of the agricultural statistics of the Colony. These and certain other returns for facilitating the collection of the assessed taxes are prepared by unpaid and irresponsible commissioners appointed by the Council and Assembly. Reference must therefore be made to the Table of Exports for information respecting the quantity and value of the staple productions of the Colony.

53. The returns appended, showing the number of estates in cultivation, the number abandoned, and the number of plantations in which cocoa cultivation has been substituted for that of the cane, have been carefully compiled by Mr. Mitchell, the Colonial Secretary,

and are to be depended upon.

54. There are 140 estates in cultivation, namely 72 in sugar, 56 in cocoa, and 12 in cotton.

55. The quantity of sugar shipped during the last five years is as follows:-

Tons. cwt. qrs. lbs.
1862 - - 3,475 11 3 14
1863 - - 5,116 16 0 12
1864 - - 4,492 15 0 15
1865 - - 3,928 0 2 24
1866 - 5,360 14 1 14

56. The sugar crop of 1866 is in excess of that manufactured in any of the years embraced in the above return, and is considerably over the annual average of the last twenty years. The prospects of the sugar planters are not, however, very encouraging, and there is every reason for apprehending that a large extent of land will shortly be thrown out of cane cultivation. There are no less than 14 sugar plantations at this present moment advertised for sale in the local newspaper; although in Grenada the negro is undoubtedly averse to work continuously in the cane fields, yet the despondency which now prevails among some of the proprietors of sugar plantations cannot be attributed to the want of a sufficient supply of labour; no less than 4,197 immigrants have been introduced into the Colony since the year 1843, and if we are to judge by the refusal of so many of the planters to re-indenture the Coolies located on their estates after the completion of their industrial service of five years, we may conclude that at present the supply of labour is more than equal to the demand. The Colony has now a much greater population than it ever has had since its cession in 1762.

In 1776, with a slave population of 18,923, the Island shipped,—

10,400 tons of sugar, 41 tons of cotton, 815 tons of coffee, 12 tons of indigo, 204 tons of cocoa.

In 1787, with a slave population of 23,906, the shipments were,—8,772 tons of sugar, 400 tons of coffee and 921 tons of cotton. In 1828, with a slave population of 24,342, the exports were,—20,172 hogsheads of sugar.

And in 1831, with a population of 23,604, the exports were,—11,901 hogsheads.

The cost of making sugar is heavier, I believe, in Grenada than in most of the other British Colonies, and the sugar produced is generally of a very inferior quality and obtains the lowest price in the British market. Grenada it would seem from these circumstances has not kept pace with her sister colonies in the improvements which have of late years been effected in nearly all of them in the former system of cultivation and manufacture. On most of the estates the crop of 1866 was produced at a heavy pecuniary loss to the planter. From some accounts which have been submitted to me I find that on one estate shipping over 100 hogsheads, the cost of making each hogshead was not less than 19l. 14s. 1d., whilst the nett proceeds were but 10l. 13s. 7d. per hogshead. On another estate, exporting over 160 hogsheads, the cost per hogshead was 17l. 17s. 2d., and the nett proceeds 11l. 6s. 10d. per hogshead. There are however, I am aware, some few exceptions, principally in the case of plantations managed by resident proprietors, in which the cost of manufacture has been moderate, and where the crop has even at the late low prices afforded a fair profit on the outlay. The small freeholders too find the cultivation of the cane very remunerative. There are some 10 or 12 small sugar works owned by them in the parish of St. George alone, three of which have been recently erected. On these sugar of a good description is made, and which finds a ready sale for island consumption.

- 57. Twenty-eight sugar estates are conducted on the Métaire system, the number in 1865 was but four. Twenty-two sugar plantations have been entirely abandoned during the last 10 years, and on 12 the cultivation of the cocoa plant has been substituted for that of the cane.
- 58. The rise in the price of cocoa has given an impetus to the cultivation of this article. It is estimated that during the last two or three years an addition of nearly 1,000 acres has been made to the land under cocoa cultivation. The quantity shipped during the last five years is as follows:—

Tons. ewt. qrs. lbs.
1862 - 575 2 0 8
1863 - 522 7 3 0
1864 - 477 2 2 4
1865 - 577 11 1 13
1866 - 631 3 2 21

As the cocoa tree takes five years to arrive at maturity, the results of the recent increase in the cultivation will not be immediately apparent, but will be gradually shown in the annual return of exports.

59. There has been a great falling off in the production of cotton. The cultivation of this article has been almost abandoned in Grenada. The quantity exported was grown chiefly in the dependency of Carriacou.

- 60. Spices are beginning to be more generally cultivated, but they do not yet form an important article of export.
- 61. Sweet potatoes, yams, bananas, and other vegetables are grown in abundance, they are to be had at moderate prices in the several markets. Large quantities are from time to time shipped to the neighbouring colony of Trinidad. It is not possible to arrive at the quantity produced, this cultivation is almost entirely in the hands of the labouring class, and it is calculated that they have nearly 5,000 acres planted in provisions and vegetables. This speaks well for the energy and industry of the black man of Grenada, and will, with the extent of land he has in cane, cocoa, and spice, sufficiently explain the cause of his gradual withdrawal as a hired labourer from the cane fields.

62. The number of small freeholders is increasing annually, the size of the allotment purchased is generally from two to six acres. The price for ordinary land is from 8*l*. to 12*l*. per acre; land already established in cocoa cannot be purchased for less than between 20*l*. to 30*l*. per acre.

Gaol and Prisoners.

63. A sum of 400l. having been voted in the Money Bill for 1866 for the improvement of the gaol, the Committee of Public Buildings at my suggestion entered into a contract for the erection of a new wing of two stories to the building. It is now nearly completed, and contains eight cells of 1,000 cubic feet each, and it has been so con-

structed as not to interfere with the plan proposed last year for the introduction into the Grenada gaol of the separate system. The main fabric still remains in a dilapidated and ruinous condition; I have lost no opportunity of urging upon the Legislature the necessity of their adopting immediate measures for the repairs and enlargement of the prison. In the year 1865 the House of Assembly approved of the suggestion made by the Commissioners of Goal Inquiry, for the re-construction of the goal and its conversion into a prison on the separate system, and an address was presented by them, in which they informed me that they had resolved to raise a sum of 2,000l. by way of loan for the purpose of accomplishing the repairs and alterations recommended by the Commissioners. The Assembly, however, at a subsequent date refused to pass the bill for raising the loan. The sum of 400l. voted in the Money Bill was quite insufficient for the purpose of repairing the old building, and was therefore appropriated for the erection of the eight additional cells, which were much required. The extra accommodation thus afforded, though small, will enable the Provost Marshal to improve his present arrangements for the classification of the prisoners, and will also remedy the evils attendant on the crowding of 14 prisoners together at night in a single ward containing not more than 3,000 cubic feet of space. As the new structure encroaches very considerably on the space allotted for exercise and airing, an Act has been passed for annexing to the gaol a piece of land adjoining to it, known as the Commissariat stables, for the purpose of providing an additional yard for exercise. The Act is at present under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

64. I have already reported on the state of the law relating to insolvent debtors. The rigour of the law is considerably aggravated by the circumstance that owing to the want of a sufficient number of cells debtors are associated with the other prisoners, and instances have occurred in which they have been confined with convicted felons. In December 1866 the four debtors in prison were locked up at night with two untried prisoners, one committed on a charge of murder, the other on a charge of manslaughter. On the delivering by the contractor of the new building to the Provost Marshal the upper storey will be appropriated for the reception of debtors. A bill for the amendment of the law relating to insolvency and imprisonment for debt has been introduced by the

Attorney-General in the House of Assembly.

65. Nineteen persons were imprisoned for debt during the year 1865, 17 were paupers who had been arrested for debts under 40s. and had to be fed at the expense of the Government

66. The commitments for the year show a slight increase over the average of the last five years. The fact that the commitments to prison are on an average under 230 per annum, in a population of 35,000, speaks well in favour of the peaceable and orderly conduct of the population.

Commitments.

	44	Supren	ne Court.	Magi	strates.	
Yea	ırs.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total
1862		15	1	148	27	201
1863	-	19	3	196	37	255
1864	-	16	1	171	32	220
1865	-	8	5	152	41	206
1866	-	16	1	178	36	231

67. The maximum number of prisoners in confinement at any one time in 1865 was 67; in 1866, 63.

The minimum in 1865 was 33; in 1866, 40.

Cases of sickness in 1865 were 105; in 1866, 60.

Deaths in 1865, 1; in 1866, 1.

The gaol possesses one advantage, that of being situated in a very healthy locality.

Charitable Institutions .- The Colony Hospital.

68. This hospital was founded in the year 1734, whilst the Island was in the possession of the French. It was placed under the charge of a religious order, and was supported by charitable subscriptions and by the profits arising from a sugar plantation in St. George's, which had been purchased with the funds of the institution. After the cession of the island to the English in 1762 the charity was administered by trustees appointed

by the Governor. In 1798 an Act was passed for incorporating the trustees of the Colony Hospital; the Act provides that the Governor, as Chancellor, shall be the sole visitor of the charity. The number of directors is limited to 19. The Chief Justice, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Attorney-General, and the Rector of St. George's are declared by the Act to be ex-officio directors; the other directors are appointed by the Governor. No change has since been made in the constitution of the corporation.

The estate belonging to the hospital has long been out of cultivation and the lands are now let in small lots. The income of the Corporation has been gradually diminishing, and the hospital has of late years been to a great extent supported from the general revenues of the Colony. In 1866 the legislative grant was 800l.; the usual vote, however, is but 500l. A further sum of 300l. per annum has lately been granted

to the directors for the care of sick and indigent unindentured Coolies.

The following is a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Corporation for the year 1866.

Receipts.	3147			Disbursements.			
Balance from 1865 Rents collected Fines on renewal of leases - Donations from clergy Government grant Do. for Coolies - Maintenance of sailors and indentured Coolies	£ 11 157 8 5 800 300 11 1,293	2 10 0 0 13	$ \begin{array}{c} d. \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 0 \\ 2\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{array} $	Arrears of 1865 Maintenance of inmates Repairs Miscellaneous expenses Balance on 31st December 1866 -	£ 242 631 192 145 10 72	4 10 12 4 0	d. 0 1 1 2 0 6 4 4 4

The total number of patients admitted and treated during the year was 384, inclusive of 277 Coolies. The greatest number under care at one time, including 24 Coolies was 87. The minimum number was 55, including 19 Coolies.

in hospital o					-	44	
Admitted in	1866		-	-	-	340	
						_	384
Discharged			-	-	280		
Died -		-	-	-	36		
						316	
In hospital 3		mber 186	6, of '	whom			
22 were C	oolies	-				68	
							384

69. The military buildings at Richmond Hill, formerly used as officers' quarters and barracks, have been converted into a poor house and lunatic asylum. The paupers and lunatics are lodged in separate portions of the premises and kept apart. The two establishments are, however, under the charge of one superintendent, who is assisted by a matron and an under keeper. Both institutions are kept in a state of great cleanliness and order, and their general management reflects credit on the Board of Guardians and on the officers of the establishment.

70. The poor house is under the direction of a Board of Guardians appointed by the Governor. It is entirely supported by a Government grant of 500l. The number of inmates is 27. Seventy-five paupers are on the out-door list, and receive an average allowance of 6s. each per month. The total cost of the poor establishment in 1866 was only 465l. 5s. 9d., being at the very low rate of 3d. per day for each pauper relieved by the Board.

71. The number of lunatics at the asylum on the 31st December was 21.

72

The total expenditure for the care and maintenance of the lunatics was 427l. 13s. 4d., being at an average rate of 1s. 1d. per diem each.

72. The Victoria Almshouse, a private charity, for providing respectable females in reduced circumstances with apartments free of charge. There are 10 inmates.

Medical Attendance.

73. Medical attendance is provided for the poor and destitute in the several parishes in Grenada. At Carriacou the Medical Practitioner and Health Officer receives an annual salary of 300l. from the Government, in consideration of which he is bound to vaccinate all children free of charge, and he is also without fee or reward to give medical and surgical advice and assistance to the inhabitants of the Island, and to attend all women in child birth. There is also a dispensary under his direction at which medicines are supplied to the inhabitants at a scale of charges fixed by a Board appointed by the Governor. The salary of the Health Officer and the expense of maintaining the Dispensary are met by a capitation tax on all persons residing in Carriacou at the following annual rates, viz.:—

Every person not more than 10 years of age - 1 0

Do. not less than 10 years and not more than

15 years - - - 2 0

Every person not less than and upwards of 15 years - 3 0

Owners or occupiers of lands or tenements of the annual value of 10l., though liable to the payment of the rate, are not entitled to the gratuitous advice or assistance of the Health Officer.

This system of affording medical aid, not only to the poor but to the labouring man also, was established in the Island of Carriacou in 1858 and has worked most satisfactorily. But for this salutary enactment Carriacou would long since have been left without a resident doctor.

74. I am of opinion that the Carriacou medical relief scheme might with considerable advantage be adopted in Grenada. The number of medical men in the Island is quite inadequate to the requirements of the inhabitants. But the value of the entire medical practice is not more than sufficient to support the six medical men already resident in the Island. This is in part owing to the circumstance that the mass of the population do not in any appreciable manner afford any support to the medical profession; they seldom think of sending for a doctor for themselves or their children until when in all probability it is too late for him to be of any use. The health of the population is at the present date good, but it is fearful to contemplate on the disastrous consequences that would, in the event of a sudden outbreak of an epidemic, such as the cholera, ensue from the want of a sufficient number of doctors to attend upon the sick.

Literary Institutions.

75. The Grenada Library, Museum, and Commercial Rooms established by Acts passed in 1847 and 1865. It is under the charge of 10 trustees, viz.,—

The Chief Justice and two Members of Council appointed by the Council. The Speaker and two Members of Assembly appointed by the House, and Four persons elected by the subscribers.

The annual subscription to the Library is 6s.; to the Commercial Rooms, 6s. The Library is open for the admission of the public free of charge, but the right of taking

books from the rooms is limited to subscribers. The Commercial Rooms are open to members only, but strangers may be introduced by any subscriber.

GRENADA.

The Library consists of about 1,600 volumes of history, biography, and general literature. It is also supplied with reviews, magazines, and other periodicals.

The London "Times," the "Standard," the "Daily News," "Public Opinion," "Punch," and the "Illustrated News," and several Colonial papers are taken at the Commercial Rooms.

The trustees have evinced a warm interest in the institution, and it is liberally supported by the community in general. The salary of the Librarian is paid by the Government and an annual vote of 501. is made for the purchase of books.

Conclusion.

76. The sanitary condition of the community cannot be said to have been satisfactory during the year. Fever, though not generally of a bad type, prevailed throughout the Island in the months of September and October. That loathsome disease, the yaws, spread extensively among the native labourers and the Indian immigrants, and the latter also suffered very severely from cutaneous diseases. There has, however, been a marked improvement in the condition of the immigrants since the establishment of hospitals on the estates. The assertion that the Coolies will not remain in an hospital, or submit themselves to medical treatment, has been fully disproved by the fact that a large number of indentured and unindentured Coolies have during the year sought for admission into the Colony Hospital, where they have been successfully treated. Doctor Aquart, the resident surgeon of the charity, assures me that he has found them tractable patients.

77. The conduct of the rural population has, as usual, been quiet and orderly, and the public tranquillity has in no way been disturbed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN BAYNES,

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 9.

Registrar-General's Office, January 30, 1867.

In transmitting to your Honour the first annual general abstract of births, deaths, baptisms, marriages, and burials for the year 1866, made up under the Registration Act, No. 357, which came into operation on the 1st January of that year, I have the honour to offer the following observations:—

The large difference between the registered deaths and burials is accounted for by the fact that although the law calls for a return of the number of burials performed by a minister it yet authorizes other persons to perform the burial services, but has not made sufficiently effectual provision for securing a proper record of such burials by such persons.

The return appended of the classification of causes of death is rather of an abnormal nature, and upon which without medical certificates of the causes of death no reliance can be placed. This arises in many cases in consequence of persons, principally among the labouring population, having an aversion to apply for any medical aid whatever, and even when sought for, not until the disease has so far progressed as to render such aid almost useless, and in others from not taking advantage of the law providing gratuitous aid for their relief. In this respect great improvement is much needed in the law, and the happiest results may be anticipated if the general hygienic principle was adopted in causing the medical practitioner in each district of the Colony, in addition to his present duties, to study and make special reports on the health of his district, describe its prevailing diseases, investigate causes of death, and recommend such sanitary measures as he may consider necessary for the conservation of the public health.

There are several other amendments required to the Registration Act which will be pointed out on some future occasion when all its defects shall have been more fully developed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SAM. MITCHELL,
Registrar-General.

His Honour the Administrator, &c. &c. &c.

Office of Registrar-General of Births and Deaths,

GENERAL ABSTRACT of BIRTHS, DEATHS, BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, and BURIALS for the Year ended 31st December 1866.

Districts.		Total	Legi	timate.	Illeg	itimate.	Total	Λά	lults.		15 and 1 year.		ar and der,
	B	Births.	м.	F.	м.	F.	Deaths.	м.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.
St. George -	-	339	71	58	107	103	286	81	68	27	31	52	27
St. John -	-	169	33	22	65	49	102	16	17	17	17	18	17
St. Mark -	-	82	12	7	29	34	46	7	12	3	11	3	10
St. Patrick -	-	242	30	22	103	87	151	39	27	29	23	18	15
St. Andrew -	-	252	46	37	84	85	193	61	37	22	29	24	20
St. David -	-	130	30	28	35	37	98	27	14	9	15	19	14
Carriacou -	-	250	72	65	53	60	98	24	18	10	14	19	13
Total	- 1,	,464	294	239	476	455	974	255	193	117	140	153	116

(continued.)		377	180		F Mari		To-11		0 91			74.63		
			ies in-		Dandiss		of Marriages.			Bu	rials,		HALF V	2
Districts.			fore- Heads,		Baptism	ıs,	er of Ma		Infant.			Adult,		Number.
		Births.	Deaths.	М.	F.	Total.	Number	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	Total .
St. George -	-	11	13	151	169	320	26	34	27	61	43	36	79	140
St. John -	-	1	2	83	64	147	20	6	7	13	18	12	30	43
St. Mark -	-	1	1	30	36	66	5	2	6	8	4	5	9	17
St. Patrick -	-	15	29	145	107	252	14	28	14	42	32	7	39	81
St. Andrew	-	17	32	143	121	264	13	19	38	57	40	24	64	121
St. David -	-	5	7	81	64	145	18	14	13	27	12	10	22	49
Carriacou -	-	0	0	137	120	257	48	36	32	68	2	4	6	74
Total .	-	50	84	770	681	1,451	161	139	137 ·	276	151	98	249	525

CLASSIFICATION of CAUSES of DEATH for the Year ended 31st December 1866,

Causes of Death.	No. of Deaths.	Ad	ults.	Under over 1	15 and year.		ear and ider.
	Deaths.	м.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.
I. Specified Causes.							
A. General Diseases.							
Zymotic (epidemic, endemic, or contagious) or eruptive fevers. B. Sporadic Diseases.	87	16	10	12	19	17	13
Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	52	21	10	4	10	5	2
Fubercular diseases	11	3	5		3		-
Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses	57	15	10	7	2	10	13
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels	13	8	4	-	-	_	1
Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration -	118	48	31	8	10	13	8
Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion.	183	46	17	34	42	27	17
Diseases of the kidneys	2	2		-		-	_
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c	13	-	13	-	-	-	-
Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c	39	15	15	-	4	3	3
Diseases of the skin, cellular tissues, &c	31	9	6	7	4	2	3
Malformations	-	-	-	2	_	-	-
Premature birth and debility	41	5 4	4	2	2	15	13
Atrophy	8	31	3 48	-	-	-	1
Age	79	8	40	1	1	_	2
Sudden	21	5	3	4	2	4	3
violence, privation, poison, intemperates,	31		0	-		19	12
Still-born II. CAUSES NOT SPECIFIED	176	19	14	38	41	38	26
Totals	974	255	193	117	140	153	116

DURATION of LIFE of INFANTS One Year old and under whose Deaths are registered in 1866.

GRENADA.

Parishes.		Died within 24 hours.	Within 1 week.	1 month.	From 1 month to 2.	2 months to 3.	3 months to 4.	4 months to 5.	5 months to 6.	6 months to 7.	7 months to 8.	8 months to 9.	9 months to 10.	10 months to 11.	11 months to 12.	Total.
St. George	-	8	4	13	5	5	4	4	3	5	2	5	2	1	10	71
St. John		1	8	2	2	1	1	-	_	1	_	_	2		1	19
St. Mark	-	4	2	1	1	-		1	1	-	2	-	1	-		13
St. Patrick	-	8	3	1	1		5	4		2	3	_	2	1	3	33
St. Andrew	~	6	3	7	5	5	4	1	3	_	2	4	_	_	4	44
St. David	-	4	2	3	-	3	1		1	-	1	3	4	1	3	26
Carriacou	-	2	3	5	3	3	2	8	1	_	1	-	1		3	32
Total	-	33	25	32	17	17	17	18	9	8	11	12	12	3	24	238

RETURN showing the estimated Population to 31st December 1866.

Population as per census of 1861 - Immigrants introduced in 1861-2			-		-			31,900
immigrants introduced in 1001-2								1,350
Natural increase estimated at 1.25 per	cent. per	annum	for 4	years to	31st	Decmber	1865	33,250 1,672
Immigrants per "Countess of Ripon,"	January	1866	-				-	34,922 260
Total estimated population Natural increase for the year 1866 as	by return	s of birt	ths ar	- nd deaths	(1.40	per cent.) -	35,182 490
Total estimated population to	31st Dec	ember 1	866		-			35,672

The births rate for the year 1866 has been (in proportion to the estimated population to 31st December 1865, and the immigrants per "Countess of Ripon"), including still-births, 4·16 per cent., or about 42 births to every 1,000 of the population, and the deaths rate 2·76 per cent., or about 28 deaths to every 1,000 of the population, leaving 1·40 per cent. as the natural increase to the population, or nearly 14 to every 1,000 inhabitants.

The number of legitimate births was at the rate of about 15, and the number of illegitimate births about 26 to every 1,000 of the inhabitants.

The rate of adult deaths was nearly 46 per cent. of the total number of deaths during the year; that of persons under 15 years and over one year 26.38 per cent.; and of infants of one year and under, exclusive of still-births, 24.43 per cent.

The still-births are returned at 31, or at the rate of about 21 per 1,000, or one in every 47 of the total number of births during the year.

The births and deaths rates have been, in proportion to the estimated population to 31st December 1865, including the Coolies per "Countess of Ripon," in every 1,000 inhabitants for each quarter of the year, as follows:—

							Births.	Deaths.
March	quarter		- 1		-	-	8.92	6.93
June	,,,	-	-	-	-	-	9.66	5
Sept.	,,,		Jan 19	ile ways.	-	-	11.85	7.87
Dec.	39	-	1 to 1	-	-		11.17	7.78

The deaths during the year in the district of St. George have been at the rate of 84·1 per cent. to the total number of births registered in the district during the same period; that of St. John, 60·35 per cent.; St. Mark, 56 per cent.; St. Patrick, 62·39 per cent.; St. Andrew, 76·19 per cent.; St. David, 75·38 per cent.; Carriacou, 39·2 per cent.

Of the number of baptisms returned, 11 were adults.

The number of marriages is returned at 161, or at the rate of nearly five to every 1,000 of the estimated population to 31st December 1865.

The number of burials is returned by the several ministers of religion at 525, being at the rate of 53.90 per cent. of the actual number of deaths registered, or 1.85 in every two deaths.

General Register Office, January 1867.

Samuel Mitchell, Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

GRENADA

RETURN of the Number of ESTATES in CULTIVATION for the Periods between the Years 1846, 1856, and 1866.

Years.	In Canes.	In Cocoa.	In Cotton.	Total.	
1846	89	52	12	145	
1856	77	54	12	145 143 140	
1866	72	56	12	140	

RETURN of ESTATES on which COCOA CULTIVATION has been substituted for that of CANE during the last Ten Years, and of ESTATES abandoned during that Period.

Parishes.		No. of Estates on which Cocoa substituted for	Estates a	bandoned.	Total.
		Cane Cultivation.	Sugar.	Cocoa.	
St. George		2	9		11
St. John -	-	2	2	1	5
St. Mark -	-	5	2	-	7
St. Patrick	-	1	3		4
St. Andrew	-	2	3		5
St. David	-		2		2

RETURN of REGISTERED FREEHOLDERS for Ten Years from 1857 to 1866.

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.	
1857	340	1862	528	
1858	388	1863	634	
1859	408	1864	600	
1860	409	1865	548	
1861	560	1866	538	

N.B.—The above figures represent the number of freeholders who have registered in order to the exercise of the franchise under the Election Act. The number of small freeholders has evidently been increasing within the last 10 years, particularly in the districts of St. George, St. Andrew, and Carriacou. The size of the allotments acquired is generally from two to six acres, and the price per acre varies according to the situation and fertility of the land. Cocoa bearing land would bring a large price, while other land would not be expected to realize more than from 8l. to 12l. per acre. Land already established in cocoa could not be purchased for less than between 20l. and 30l. per acre.

TOBAGO. No. 10.

TOBAGO.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 277.)

Windward Islands, Barbados, August 29, 1867. My LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of Tobago for the

year 1866, with the usual Annual Report from the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor gives a very good account of financial and agricultural matters for the past year. The Bishop of Guiana, on his late visitation, and other authorities, give by no means a desponding report of the moral and religious condition of the people. So that the Island is at all events not retrograding.

I have, &c. JAS. WALKER. (Signed)

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

(No. 54.)

TOBAGO.

Sir, Government House, Tobago, August 15, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for the year 1866, together with a brief report on it.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The fixed revenue raised during the year was 6,994l. 6s. 4d., arrears of revenue 72l. 2s. 11d., incidental revenue 162l. 17s. $0\frac{1}{2}d$., and receipts in aid of revenue 2,585l, 0s. 7d., making the total revenue for the year 9,814l. 6s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$., against 8,758l. 15s. 4d. revenue of 1865. This increase, amounting to 1,055l. 11s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$., is due in a measure to a larger trade, owing to the crops having considerably exceeded those of the previous years, but principally to the tax of 40 per cent. on the tariff, which was in operation during part only of 1865.

The expenditure amounted to 10,153l. 7s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$., exceeding the revenue by 339l. 0s. 3d., and the expenditure of 1865 by 92l. 4s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$. In 1865 no payments were made out of the public chest on account of the hurricane loan, the sums remitted having been collected from the private borrowers, whereas in 1866 remittances from the public monies were made amounting to 612l. 11s. 9d. This accounts for the expenditure of 1866 being in excess of that of 1865. The arrears of expenditure were reduced from 1,494l. 18s. 4d. in 1865 to 981l. 17s. 8d. in 1866.

Public Debt.

Of the 20,000*l*. borrowed from the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury for the relief of the sufferers by the hurricane in 1847, 18,466*l*. 3s. 4d. had been repaid at the end of 1866, leaving at that time a balance of 1,533*l*. 16s. 8d. due, the whole of which, according to the terms of the loan, should be paid during the present year. The private borrowers having, with few exceptions, paid the last instalment due by them, the greater portion of the unpaid balance will have to be met by the public treasury.

Public Works, Roads, &c.

No public works of any importance have been undertaken during the year. The public buildings have been kept in repair at an expenditure of 152l. 10s. 3d. The roads, under a very inefficient system, have been maintained at a cost of 785l. 18s. 5d.

Legislation.

Of ten Acts promulgated during the year the most important were:

"An Act to raise a Duty on Rum made and consumed within this Island, and to "provide efficient Regulations for the Collection thereof." A similar tax existed some years since, but was found so unproductive, in consequence of the facility with which it could be evaded, that it was abandoned. It is to be hoped that the present Act will be more successful.

An Act to amend "An Act relating to Lands in this Island commonly called the "Three Chains." This Act was passed to amend the Act passed in 1865 in accordance with the Secretary of State's recommendation, and will secure to persons establishing their claim the undisturbed possession of the portion of land they occupy within the Three Chains.

The other Acts are for the most part the annual Tax Acts.

Executive and Legislative Councils.

One member of the Privy Council, Mr. James Leith, died in December, and Mr.

Charles Augustus Berkeley was appointed in his place.

In the Legislative Council three vacancies occurred during the year, through the deaths of Mr. Hugh MacDougall, Mr. George Henry Richardson, and Mr. James Leith. Mr. John McCall and Doctor Patrick Mitchel Mackenzie were appointed to succeed the two former, and the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Leith was filled up in March this year by the appointment of Mr. Charles Isaac Le Plastrier, Provost Marshal General of the Island.

Pensions.

There are no pensions payable out of the revenue of the Island, but there are two annuitants, elderly women, who receive each 3l. 11s. 2d. a year, as slaves manumitted in

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Tobago.

the Colony, the sum of 100l. for each having been paid into the public treasury by their owners under an Act of the 19th October 1814.

Imports and Exports.

The imports in 1866 are valued at 57,645l., producing a revenue of 6,112l. 7s. 1d., against 47,481l. and 5,194l. 8s. 3d. in 1865. The estimated value of the exports is 69,872l., being 23,110l. in excess of 1865.

Education.

The number of day schools in connexion with the Church of England is ten, with 856 scholars. In 1865 the return showed 815 scholars. The salaries of the teachers are derived partly from Government grant and partly from voluntary contributions and from funds at the disposal of the Bishop of the diocese. There are ten Church of England Sunday schools, with an attendance of 1,103 scholars, male and female.

The Moravians have nine day schools, having on the lists 788 scholars, and an average attendance of 401. There appears to have been some decrease in the number on the lists, which by the return of 1865 was 818. The Sunday school average attendance was in 1865, 467 scholars; in 1866, 513, showing an increase in the latter year of 46.

In 1865 the Wesleyan schools, seven in number, had an attendance of 572 scholars, in 1866 of 536, showing a decrease of 36.

Comparative Statement of Schools.

In connexion with the Church of England:-

	Day Schools.	Attendance.	Sunday Schools.	Attendance.
1865 1866	10 10	815 856	10 10	953 1,103
I	ncrease -	- 41	Increas	e - 50

Schools in connexion with the Moravian Church:-

	Day Schools.	Attendance.	Sunday Schools.	Attendance
1865 1866	9 9	S18 788	9	467 513
De	ecrease -	- 30	Increas	e - 46

Schools in connexion with the Wesleyan Methodist Society :-

-	Day and Sunday Schools.	Attendance.	
1865 1866	7 7	572 536	
D	eciease -	- 36	

Agriculture.

There are 64 estates in cultivation in Tobago. The Metayer system prevails very generally, and although I do not think the result can be altogether satisfactory, either to the proprietors or to the Metayers, yet it possesses the advantages of enabling the proprietor to keep his estate in cultivation at less actual outlay, and of raising the Metayer in the social scale by giving him an interest in the land. The export of sugar amounted to 90,295 cwt., or to about 5,825 hhds. and 7 cwt., the hhds. averaging 15½ cwt., a larger quantity than has been exported from Tobago for many years.

Prisons and Prisoners.

TOBAGO.

The number of prisoners committed during the year was 87 males and 28 females, making a total of 115, of whom 10 only were convicted of felony. The greatest number in confinement at any one time of the year was 22 males and 7 females, by which it will be seen that the number of persons committed to the gaol and the largest number in confinement at any one time were less than in 1865.

General.

It is a satisfaction to me to be able to report that Tobago has in most points made progress. No estates have been abandoned; on the contrary, I think cultivation has of late been extended. The financial state of the Colony is undoubtedly sounder than it has been for some time, and it is only justice to the proprietary body, of whom the Council and Assembly are principally composed, to remark that they have not hesitated to tax themselves in order to relieve the Colony from its embarrassments. I may instance the additional $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the assessed value of property above the value of 5l., and the 40 per cent. on the import duties, both of which taxes fall heavily on the planters.

The people continue to be well disposed, and although some murmuring has of late taken place respecting some of the taxes, there has been no serious opposition offered to

the collection of them.

I have, &c. (Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

Governor Walker, C.B., &c. &c.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Walker, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 374.)

My Lord Duke, Windward Islands, Barbados, April 29, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of St. Lucia for 1866, together with the usual Annual Report on the condition of the Island.

Financially the past year has been a great improvement on 1865.

I have, &c. (Signed) JAS. WALKER.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

(No. 56.)

Government Office, St. Lucia, April 20, 1867.

I have the honour to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State the Blue

Book of this Colony for the past year, with the usual abstract and comparative returns annexed.

2. I had in my last report to comment on the shortcoming of the revenue in 1865, but I am happy to be able to testify to a better state of things in 1866, as the few observations which I shall proceed to offer upon the contents of the Blue Book will show.

Revenue.

3. The general revenue exceeded that of the previous year by a considerable amount.

			£	S.	d.	
Revenue of 1866	-10	-	15,293	12	4	
Ditto of 1865 (exclusive of 1,000	Ditto of 1865 (exclusive of 1,000l. loan)					
Excess			3,566	4	11	

ST. LUCIA.

It was also greater than the estimate.

					£	S.	d.
Estimate for 1866	1				14,034	0	0
Amount collected in	1866	10/10	-	-	15,293	0	0
	Excess			-	£1,259	0	0
					NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY OF TAXABLE PARTY.	LECTION AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND	DESCRIPTION.

This was partly due to an increase in the rum duties and still licences. For 11 months of the year an additional duty of 6d. per gallon was levied upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony, and the still licences were increased from the nominal charge of 10s. to rates varying from 15l. to 30l., according to the capacities of the stills; but this alone would not account for the prosperous condition of the revenue. The cause must also, I think, be sought for in the largeness of the crop, and the speculation, during the early part of the year, in the exportation of satin wood, which circulated a good deal of money amongst those engaged in procuring and preparing the wood for market. Both of these events re-acted favourably on trade, and to them is due in some measure the increase in the sums obtained from imports, tonnage, and excise duties.

A glance at the following comparative table will show the items in which the general revenue contrasts favourably with that of 1865:—

			1865.	1866.	Increase.
I I	mports Connage Jiquor Licences Cum duties Ces, fines, and forfeitures		£ s. d. 4,710 8 1 556 7 10 934 0 0 4,023 12 1 592 3 2	£ s. d, 6,527 0 4 735 2 11 1,267 0 0 5,003 2 8 797 11 8	£ s. d. 1,816 12 3 178 15 1 333 0 0 979 10 7 205 8 6
	Total excess -	-			3,513 6 5

4. The Custom House returns show that the importation of most articles was greater than the year before. In some instances the quantities were stationary, and in a few there was a decrease. The following table includes the principal items in which there was an increase:—

Articles.		Imported in 1865.	Imported in 1866.	Increase.
N. C.	ASTORAGE ST		BE PLAN	
Candles, tallow	- cwt.	287	836	549
Do., other kinds -	- ,,	73	128	55
Coffee	- ,,	53	186	133
Corn meal	- barrels	77	990	913
Flour, wheat	- ,,	3,817	6,240	2,423
Fish, salted	- cwt.	6,198	7,719	1,521
Do., pickled	- barrels	189	232	43
Meat, salted and cured -	- lbs.	87,874	140,461	52,587
Pepper	- cwt.	17	52	35
Oil, Kerosine	- gals.	1,154	2,345	1,191
Do., olive	- "	7,044	16,172	9,128
Rice	- lbs.	358,333	464,033	105,700
Spirits, rum	- gals.	2,775	3,783	1,008
Soap	- cwt.	840	1,034	194
Tobacco, unmanufactured	- 1bs.	39,440	85,417	45,977
White pine lumber -	- M.	306,392	411,371	104,979
Shingles by press and pine	- ,,	70,000	101,000	31,000
Shingles, Wallaba -	- "	57,000	155,000	98,000
Shooks	- bdls.	1,506	2,626	1,120
MANUFACTURED GOO	DDS.			
Linens and cottons -	Value, £	20,572	25,251	4,679
Hardware	A STATE OF THE STA	2,245	2,771	526
Hats and bonnets -	"	667	933	266
Leather, manufactured -	"	1,819	2,735	916
Silk, ,, -	"	834	1,357	523

5. The annexed table shows the revenue derived from all sources:

St. Lucia.

					£	S.	d.
General Revenue	-	-		-	15,293	12	4
Education -	-	- 10	-		563		9
Roads and Bridges	-	21.0			1,373		
Immigration	-	-		-	1,751		2
Military Property F	und			-	153		7
Castries Harbour D	redge	Fund		-	110	5	6
Loan Fund -	-		-	-	453	9	3
					0.000		_
Manager L. C. St. Co.				ä	£19,699	17	1

6. In this statement two new items appear. The "Castries Harbour Dredge Fund" is raised from an additional duty of 3d. per ton upon shipping to defray the loan (660l.) borrowed from the Immigration Fund to purchase a dredge to deepen the water at the wharves of this port. The "Loan Fund" consists of the proceeds of an ad valorem duty of half per cent. upon the duties collected on imports according to the tariff of 1857, including a few articles exempted in that ordinance, and is applied to liquidate a loan of 1,000l., which was borrowed from the Road and Bridges Fund in 1865, to assist in meeting the general expenditure of that year.

Export Duties.

7. The tariff of these duties remains the same as heretofore, but the amount raised has been larger owing to the considerable increase in the exports themselves.

Amo	ount c	collected and	carried to the	Education Fund		- 13	s. 3	a.
	"	"	,,	Roads and Bridges	Fund			
	"	"	"	Immigration Fund	-	- 1,39	3 13	7
			Total			- 2,29	3 3	4

8. The interest on and instalments of the Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Guaranteed Loans to St. Lucia (18,000*l*.) form the first charge on the duties under the last two heads. The amount so paid in 1866 was 1,408*l*. 12s.; namely, 195*l*. 12s. (roads and bridges), and 1,213*l*. (immigration).

9. The duties collected in 1865 only reached 1,8891, making a difference in favour

of 1866 of 404l.

10. Imports and Exports.

				Impo	orts.		Expor	ts.
				£	s.	d.	£ s	. d.
1862	-	-	-	93,606	15	1	87,991 1	
1863	-		-	69,583	0	0	83,711 1	
1864	-		-	90,363	1	3	111,383 1	5 11
1865	11 to 12 to	On the late		70,757	18	8	107,328	
1866	-		**	91,504	13	8	109,482 1	

11. The considerable addition to the value of imports is accounted for by the increased quantity, but there would have been a greater difference in the exports had sugar fetched the same price as the year before.

		QUANTITY EXPORTED.							
		Hhds.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Value.				
ACCIDE TO					D. T. Harris				
1865	-	5,918	529	5,038	£92,404				
1866	-	7,176	1,345	6,528	£89,360				

12. It will be seen that whilst the quantity exported exceeded that of 1865 by 1,258

hogsheads, 816 tierces, and 1,490 barrels, the value was actually 3,044l. less.

13. Very little satin wood has been exported since my last report, as the price fell down to such an extent as to make a trade in it unremunerative. The total amount shipped during the year was 23,854 cubic feet, and the declared value of it 7,156l.

Expenditure.

14. The amount actually paid under the head of General Expenditure appears large, because the arrears of 1865 had to be defrayed out of the revenue of 1866, but in reality 20043.

St. Lucia. it was slightly below the estimate, and exceeded only by a small sum the expenditure belonging to the previous year.

Estimated expenditure for 1866 Expenditure belonging to that year			£ 14,025 13,939	14	d. 0 2
Difference		-	85	19	10
			£	8.	d.
Expenditure proper of 1865 -	-	-	13,770	19	10
" of 1866 -	-		13,939	14	2

15. This excess was not due to any additions to salaries or creations of new appointments, but must be referred to a larger sum being required for the charitable institutions, chiefly for the maintenance and medical treatment of sick paupers in the General Asylum.

16. The total expenditure is shown below.

					£	S.	d.
General expenditure		-			13,939	14	2
Education (less 500l.	include	ed in	general	ex-			
penditure) -	-	-	-	-	468	5	5
Immigration -	-	-	-		1,855	5	8
Roads and bridges		-	- 1	-	652	6	0
Military Property Fund	1		-	-	155	19	0
Loan Fund (cost of col	lection)	•		-	25	19	2
					17,097	9	5
						A COLUMN TO SERVICE STATE OF THE PARTY OF TH	THE REAL PROPERTY.

17. If to this amount is added the arrears paid in 1866, we obtain the actual expenditure of that year, 18,567l. 10s. 2d.

Local Revenue and Expenditure.

18. As the Corporation raise taxes from the same sources every year, and have undertaken no new work since my last report, their accounts present very little difference. The revenue amounted to 1,063l. 13s. 7d., and the expenditure to 937l. 6s. 6d. At the close of the year they had a balance to their credit of 209l. 19s. 4d. I have had occasion to notice before that their establishment swallows up one-fourth of their income. Indeed, but for the penal gang being frequently placed at the disposition of the Mayor to assist in repairing the wharves, in filling up the swampy places in the town, and clearing out the large drains in order to improve its sanitary condition, they would find it hard to make both ends meet without increasing the assessment rate, which, owing to the poverty of the householders and low value of property in Castries, would bear hardly on the ratepayers.

Public Debt.

19. It is not anticipated that the debt of the Colony, consisting of 15,000l. borrowed for immigration purposes and 3,000l. for roads and bridges, will be extinguished before 1880. In the meantime the Sinking Fund continues to increase steadily; on the first of January last it amounted to 6,109l. 10s. stock in the three per cent. reduced annuities. Besides the loan mentioned last year as taken from the Roads and Bridges Fund for general purposes, 660l. has since been borrowed from the Immigration Fund (repayable in 10 annual instalments with interest at four per cent.) to procure a dredge for the Colony (one-fourth of the loan and working expenses of the dredge is to be paid by the Corporation). The amount due to the "Roads and Bridges" Fund is reduced to 599l. 8s. 11d.

Roads and Bridges.

20. The repairs to the public roads are effected principally by the system of "statute "labour." Each male inhabitant between the ages of 16 and 60 (persons paying taxes to the Corporation of Castries and rural constables excepted) are required to give six days' labour in each year, three days in January, and the remainder in June. They can

commute this service by a payment of 3s. for each of these periods, failing which (and not working) they render themselves liable to a penalty which may be recovered by distress on their property, and, if nothing can be found, they are subjected to a certain number of days' imprisonment without hard labour. The system is but imperfectly worked owing to the difficulty of finding out the defaulters, in tracing their property, and the indifference with which the people regard imprisonment. The Stipendiary Magistrates are Road Commissioners in their respective districts, and associated with them is a Committee selected for the most part from the proprietors and managers of the estates through which the public road passes, and who are specially interested in its being kept in good repair. I have taken some trouble to get the system properly, that is fairly worked, and can only hope for further improvement, for at present I am convinced that many persons escape altogether. Not only is labour lost to the roads, but it is hard upon those who comply with the law that any should be able to evade it. The returns of the magistrates show that 18,657 days' labour were given last year; this would represent about 930l. The "commutation" money has not increased to the extent I had hoped, but a much larger amount of penalties was collected last year than in previous years.

							£	S.	d.
Amount	collected	in	1865	-		-	38	2	0
"	"	in	1866		-	-	216	11	6
			Exce	ess	-	-	178	9	6

21. This cannot fail to have a good effect as regards securing more labour, or its equivalent, commutation money. 413l. 4s. 3d. was advanced from the Road Fund for repairs to roads and bridges by hired labour (including materials).

Legislation.

22. The Ordinances passed were few in number, only five; all of them have been confirmed.

No. 1, 31st January 1866.—In consequence of the anticipated deficiency in the revenue (owing to the arrears of 1865) this Ordinance was passed to impose for the remainder of the year an additional duty of 6d. per gallon upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony.

No. 2, 5th April 1866.—This Ordinance gives legal sanction to the sums spent in excess of the estimates for 1865. The whole estimate was not exceeded, but some items were, amounting to 109l. 16s. It was also necessary to cover 97l. 1s. 3d. paid on account of the guaranteed loans (deficiency in the export duty) and a transfer of 98l. 12s. 2d. to the education fund to meet a deficiency in that account.

No. 3, 8th August 1866.—This is the annual Tax and Appropriation Ordinance, and is in most respects similar to that passed for the previous year. Under it tonnage duty is extended to whaling vessels, the additional duty of 6d. per gallon upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony is continued for the current year, and an additional duty of 3d. per gallon placed upon imported rum, in order to give the native production the same protection as heretofore.

No. 4, 17th October 1866.—This Ordinance authorizes a charge for judicial notices in the Official Gazette. As the whole charge of this publication is borne by the Colony and it is distributed gratuitously to the principal inhabitants, it was thought expedient to recoup a portion of the expense in this manner.

No. 5, 17th October 1866.—This Ordinance was required to cover supplementary estimates taken for "Hospitals" and "Charitable Allowances," amounting to 300l. This additional expenditure was rendered necessary by the increased outlay on the charitable institutions and the greater number of persons receiving out-door relief in the first district.

Education.

23. I have very little to add to my reports on this subject in previous years. There are the same number of schools and almost the same number of pupils. Applications have been made for grants to establish other Roman Catholic Schools, and there is no doubt that there are still places where the people are in want of the means of tuition near at hand, but the funds being limited the Board of Education have not been able to appropriate any part of it to this purpose. On the contrary, they have been obliged to

reduce some of the grants to existing schools. The following Table shows the schools receiving aid and the number of pupils on the rolls of each establishment:—

Mid-W- Way			7	Iico School	S.	Roman Catholic Schools.			
			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Castries -	-		105	a story	105	92	_	92	
Do., infant	-		64	27	91	102	-	102	
Do., convent	-	-	_	-	_	-	297	297	
Gros Islet -	-	-	53	13	66	61	41	102	
Soufriere -	-	-	102	28	130	-	118	118	
Do., infant	-	-	50	11	61	_	-	_	
Anse La Raye	-	-	42	4	46		-	_	
Choiseul -	-	-	59	29	88	-	=		
Rever D'orée	-	-	48	40	88	_	-	_	
Laborie -	-		54	35	89		-	-	
Vieux Fort -	-	-	60	43	103	1			
Micoud -	-		43	13	56	36	31	67	
Dennery -	-	-	_	-		66	30	96	
			680	243	923	357	517	874	

24. The Mico schools received from the Protestant Committee of the Board 550l. 5s., and their total expenses were 1,722l. 0s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$., the difference, 1,171l. 15s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$., being supplied by the trustees of the charity. The Roman Catholic schools received during the past year 649l. 15s. Adding the allowance to the secretary of the Board and the cost of collecting part of the revenue, we obtain a total of 2,388l. 0s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. devoted to the promotion of education.

Prisoners.—Crime.

25. The gaol calendar is lighter than last year. The total number of prisoners committed was 541 as against 581 in 1865. Of these 19 had been committed once, 14 twice, and 10 three or more times before. 24 persons were indicted at the criminal sessions of the Royal Court, of whom 18 were convicted, 5 acquitted, and 1, who was out on bail, did not surrender to take his trial. The sentences passed ranged from four years' to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. Amongst the cases were three convictions for rape. The most serious case of crime was one for cutting and wounding with intent to murder in order to commit a robbery from the person; it only, however, came on for trial this year. The great bulk of the commitments was from the magistrates' courts for slight offences; amongst these are included the commitments for non-payment of the penalties inflicted for non-performance of the road service.

Population.

26. The Blue Book returns under this head are within the mark, for there is no complete system of registration of births and deaths; correcting the figures of the last census, in 1861, by the information supplied by the magistrates, it would appear that the population of the Colony amounts only to 29,519 persons, of whom 14,659 are male and 14,860 female, and of these there are only 888 whites, the rest are black and coloured.

Agriculture.

27. The crop was a very good one as will be seen from the following table, which gives the amount of produce exported during the last five years. The principal article "sugar" exceeded by more than one-fourth the quantity shipped last year, the difference between the two years being 2,363,592 lbs. Less rum was made and the greater part of it was as usual consumed in the Colony. It is feared that the dry weather towards the close of 1866 will cause a diminution of the crop of the current year.

	Year		Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.	Cotton.
			lbs.	Gallons.	Gallons.	lbs.	lbs.
862		-	8,762,415	104,800	8,275	191,392	
863	-	-	8,725,125	111,200	15,297	251,733	1,652
864		-	8,110,025	126,900	2,070	221,759	18,296
865			8,579,146	119,900	16,638	289,097	11,390
1866		-	10,942,738	147,200	5,981	192,885	8,138

Immigration.

ST. LUCIA.

28. Immigration to the Colony has ceased since 1862, and at present there are no immigrants under indenture except a few who, by imprisonment and absenting themselves from the estates upon which they were located without leave, had failed to complete their term of industrial residence. To relieve the Immigration Fund from a burthen which the expense of keeping up the district hospitals entailed upon it, these institutions were closed at the end of 1865, and during the past year the old system has been reverted to, under which employers of indentured immigrants were obliged to supply the sick with medical attendance, nourishment, &c. But in order to secure to those seriously ill amongst the unindentured immigrants the same gratuitous advantages which they enjoyed whilst the hospitals were open, an arrangement was made under which the Castries depôt was used as a "free" hospital for cases "of extreme sickness, age, or infirmity." The number received into this institution last year was 184, at a cost to the Immigration Fund of about 300l., of these 143 were discharged cured and 11 died in the depôt. At the close of last year there were 1,212 Coolies in the Colony. The number of ascertained deaths was 21, and of births 22. The accounts of their condition was almost uniformly favourable. Some of them are habitually given to idleness and vagabondage, but the great bulk of them appear to give satisfaction to their employers. On some estates they cultivate canes in halves. In a short time the eight years' residence of the first brought into the Colony will expire, and it will then be seen whether they are content to remain or not. The emigration from hence to neighbouring colonies is very slight, although at one time their were indications of its becoming extensive.

Miscellaneous.

29. The Colony has been spared a visitation of the epidemic from which Guadaloupe suffered so severely in the early part of the year, and which subsequently attacked St. Thomas. The port of Castries is now the place of transhipment for the Royal Mail steamers employed on the southern route. The great natural advantages of the harbour has also induced the company to try it (experimentally) as a coaling station. The steamers employed upon this part of the line can come alongside the wharves to coal, so that no expense has been incurred beyond hiring a yard for a coal depôt. Now that they transship here a saving of time will be effected by coaling at this port instead of at Grenada, and it appears very probable that this change will be permanently effected. A dredge (not yet quite completed) was procured from England last year to deepen the water near the wharves, which in some places has become shallowed from the deposit formed by the washings of the streets. The want of a dredge for this purpose has been felt for some time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. GRANT,
Administrator.

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Antigua. No. 12.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hill, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 98.)

My Lord Duke, Leeward Islands, Antigua, August 27, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book of this Island for 1866, and also a short report thereon which I have requested Mr. Eldridge, the Acting Colonial Secretary, to prepare for me, as I was absent the greater portion of the year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor-in-Chief,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

Leeward Islands.

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Antigua, August 27, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1866, with a report thereon.

(Signed) I have, &c.

(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Colonel Stephen J. Hill, C.B., Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, August 19, 1867.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Island is obtained principally from indirect taxation. The most important fiscal receipts are those derived from import and tonnage duties, yielding nearly two-thirds the entire revenue. In March it was found necessary to supplement the Import Act by an additional 25 per cent. on the then existing duties for a period of one year. For the first time in the annals of the Colony a Trade and Income Tax was levied, but from the imperfect machinery of the law it failed to produce anything like the estimated return, 1,726l. only being received, instead of 2,500l. The Excise Duty on rum has not been as prolific a source of revenue as formerly; the records show a lesser quantity upon which duty has been paid comparatively with the past few years of some 5,000 gallons, attributable, it is feared, not to a decreased consumption, but to an evasion of the duty. Fees from public offices, fines at the police court, receipts from the post office, the public market, licences for the retailing of liquors, buying metals, keeping of dogs, hiring of wheeled vehicles, form no inconsiderable portion of revenue.

The parochial assessment does not raise a sufficient amount for the payment of the

clergy, 1,2001. per annum being chargeable on the General Revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure. d. 2. The ordinary sources of revenue were 39,292 These were augmented by receipts from-£1,517 10 9 Militia Export Tax Immigration Fund 2,640 17 9 Savings' bank 1,731 15 3 5,890 3 26,080 16 1 Debentures, Antigua Waterworks 0 71,263 4 £ d. S. 38,013 11 The ordinary expenditure was Augmented by payments to-Militia drawback -£150 0 803 10 0 Savings' bank 361 5 9 Immigration Waterworks Sinking Fund 1,018 15 0 2,333 11 24,163 13 Construction of waterworks 45 Balance consisting of— £1,115 19 General Revenue Parishes -72 3 11 Militia export 1,367 10 5 2,279 12 0 Immigration 1,907 81 2 Waterworks 6,752 41 71,263 4 0

The introduction of the expenditure incurred in the construction of the waterworks materially swells the sum total of the financial year, but irrespective of this outlay the finances of the Island admit of favourable comparison with past years.

Upon an examination we find that during the year old liabilities amounting to 5,487l. were liquidated, while on the other hand the only extraneous revenue was derived from the Trade and Income Tax, and that only to the extent of some 1,700l.

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This improved state of things is attributable to the shipment of a very large sugar crop, which for the average may be considered the largest ever made, to the additional wealth of the Colony from the export of over 500,000 lbs. cotton, together with direct increased revenue derived from the Tariff, Tonnage, and Excise Duties.

The expenditure of the Colony was also slightly decreased.

There is an evident determination on the part of the Legislature to reduce the expenditure of the Colony as far as may be consistent with the requirements of the public service.

	3	-Imm	igrati	on .	Fund.				
			0				£	s.	d.
To Planters' Notes	-		-				681	12	3
Messrs. Coutts			-		-	-	134	15	1
Commissioners	of Immig	ration		-	-		3	4	101
Earthquake Loa	in -			-		-	3,681	4	$0\frac{\tilde{1}}{2}$
Treasury	- b. 1	-	-		-		23	4	2
Colonial Bank of	on interes	t	-		-	-	2,256	7	10
							6,780	8	3

N.B.—The amount loaned to the Earthquake Loan accounts will be returned in 1867 and 1868.

4.—Public Debt.				
		£	s.	d.
By Earthquake Loan	-	10,000	0	0
Savings' Bank	-	7,904	2	2
Notes in circulation	-	2,000	0	0
Market Debentures	-	2,000	13	10
Police Reward Fund	-	103	16	2
Local Loan		2,250	0	0
Waterworks' Debentures	-	25,000	0	0
To amount of Sinking Fund to retire Waterwork	,	49,268	12	2
Debentures	-	1,500	0	0
		47,768	12	2
			-	-

The public debt is worthy of examination, and reference gives following data for the basis of remark:—

				£	S.	d.	
The amount	of public debt in	1859	-	51,495	0	0	
Do.	do.	1862	-	36,306	0	0	
Do.	do.	1865		54,725	0	0	
Do.	do.	1866	-	47,768	0	0	

A classification of these debts reveals the fact of a large diminution in the ordinary and extraordinary debts of the Colony which even the addition of the cost of permanent works constructed this year still fails to counterbalance.

ORDINARY.

1859.		1862.		1865.		1866.		
Treasury notes Loan for cur- rent expenses.	£ 2,000 3,970	Treasury notes	£ 2,000	Treasury notes Loan for cur- rent expenses. Arrears	£ 2,000 5,500 3,750	Treasury notes Local loan - Arrears -	£ 2,000 2,250 1,449	
£	5,970	£	2,000	£	11,250	£	5,699	

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EXTRAORDINARY.

1859.		1862.	1127.74	1865.		1866.		
Earthquake loan. Savings' bank -	£ 40,000 5,525	Earthquake loan. Savings' bank	£ 25,000 5,986	Earthquake loan. Savings' bank	£ 10,000 6,975	Earthquake loan. Savings' bank	£ 10,000 7,904	
£	45,525	£	30,986	£	16,975	£	17,904	

PERMANENT WORKS.

1862.		1865.		1866.			
Immigration - Market -	£ 1,320 2,000	Market - Waterworks -	£ 2,000 24,500	Market - Waterworks -	£ 2,000 23,500		
£	3,320	£	26,500	£	25,500		

Thus you have a decrease in ordinary debts from 1865 of 11,250l. to 5,699l.; in extraordinary debts from 45,525l. in 1859 to 17,904l. in 1866, while notwithstanding the addition of the heavy expenditure of the waterworks the debt of the Colony shows a decrease of some 7,000l. The waterworks debentures are provided for by a sinking fund of 1,000l. per annum for 20 years, which being placed at compound interest realizes at four per cent. the total amount of debentures of 30,000l.

5. Legislation.

If we were to measure the progress of legislation by a numerical record 1866 would fall far short of preceding years, as only 12 Acts were added to the Statute Book, but among these will be found legislation of the most important character that has occurred for very many years.

The change of the constitution was introduced by Sir Benjamin C. C. Pine in an able speech to the Assembly on the 10th October, and a reference to this document will fully illustrate the position of the Legislature at the time and unfold the views of the promoters of the measure.

The new Chamber is composed of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the Treasurer, and eight Crown nominees, with twelve members elected by the freeholders.

The new Constitution Bill awaits the Royal Assent. (Is now in operation.)

Among the other Acts will be found Bills amending those relating to the Public Health, the Tariff, the Post Office, the Cemetery, Police, All Saints' Chapelry, and the Roads, while others organize the Militia and extend the provisions of a Loan Act.

6. Military.

The strength of the militia is 150 men, exclusive of officers and non-commissioned officers, and the cavalry about 80.

The militia receive 3s. for every drill, and 5s. for guard of honour or review. The cavalry receive 5s. for every drill, and 10s. for escort or review, and a drawback of 251. per annum for every trooper who has regularly attended for the year.

This drawback is provided by an export duty on sugar of 3s. 4d. per hogshead and

other packages in proportion.

The discipline of the militia is very poor, and attendance irregular; the cavalry present a better appearance; there is more regularity in their attendance; but both corps want efficient drilling.

7. Public Works.

The construction of the waterworks advanced favourably during the year, and on the 27th of December, when the poor of the city and vicinity were very much in want of water, the cooling and refreshing element was unostentatiously allowed to flow into the city, and one or two stand posts were immediately opened for the free use of the people, much to their comfort and health. It is thought that the introduction of good water will tend materially to improve the health of the lower classes, while the protection to

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property and the anticipated reduction in fire assurance will tend materially to benefit

the upper classes.

This undertaking has been fostered by our able Governor, Colonel Hill, C.B., who from its conception manifested the liveliest interest in its success, and it must ever shed a lustre upon his administration, for no greater boon could possibly have been conferred upon the Island.

The works were carried out under the superintendence of John Wiltshire Clarke, Esq., C.E., of the Island of Barbados, and reflect the utmost credit on this gentleman's

ability and skill.

8. The Council, Assembly, and Civil List.

The Legislature has been remodelled, as already noticed, by the substitution of the Single Chamber Bill for the Council and Assembly. The Executive Council remains as

the advising body of the Governor.

There have been no material changes in the Civil List. The Treasurer, Mr. Henry Berkeley, assumed his duties during the year, and the Acting Treasurer and late Accountant, Mr. Beveridge, was promoted to the Treasurership of Grenada. Mr. E. D. Baynes, the Colonial Secretary, was called upon to administer the government of Grenada for the second time.

9. Population.—Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The returns of the Registrar-General * show an increase of births, 1,353, against 1,310 deaths, the latter figures including 152 still-born.

The following comparison with past years is interesting:—

		Ref.	BIRTHS.				
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	
1,298	1,326	1,072	1,407	1,407	1,581	1,353	
en e		Eliza i	DEATHS.				
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	
1,344	1,403	1,738	1,734	1,750	1,534	1,310	
		10	. MARRIAG	ES.		,	
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	
183	197	150	163	166		183	

11. Education.

A very interesting report from the Commissioners of Education is appended to this return, in which it will be found, while the number on the school books is slightly decreased, the average attendance is increased some eight per cent. There are 52 schools in the Island, with 3,621 children on the books.

12. Imports and Exports.

The following figures are collated from the Treasurer's returns:

			Imports.	Exports.
			£	£
1860		-	225,791	254,002
1861		-	208,677	237,123
1862		-	186,353	226,329
1863	,-	-	173,912	239,630
1864			171,589	80,333
1865	•	-	165,388	192,632
1866	•	-	187,704	291,860

^{*} Not printed.

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13. Tonnage.

		Entered.	Cleared.
		THE STATE OF THE STATE OF	
		Tons.	Tons.
1860		- 35,430	35,313
1861	-	- 32,300	31,961
1862		- 31,710	29,705
1863	_	- 26,253	28,291
1864	-	- 22,532	20,492
1865		- 22,692	23,351
1866		- 29,564	28,498

14. Crops.

		Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.
		Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Puncheons.
1860		- 11,889	5,429	586
1861		- 10,818	5,399	507
1862		- 14,954	6,404	1,009
1863		- 13,581	6,148	931
1864	-	- 3,354	1,570	50
1865		- 9,524	4,987	576
1866		- 17,300	7,859	696

15. Cotton.

1865		-	279,400	lbs
1866	-	-	590,091	,,

The returns for 1866 contrast favourably with those immediately preceding it, and if the rainy weather had continued to the end of the year an improved state of things might have been looked for, but the prospects for next crop are gloomy, and 10,000 hogsheads will not be reaped.

The cotton crop will doubtless be much larger, as the acreage in cultivation is daily extending.

16. Crime.

The summary convictions before the magistrates for the past few years are as follows:—

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
2,882	2,148	2,638	2,749	4,431		3,298

Petty crimes are still rife among us, but more grave offences are rare.

17. Sanitary.

The health of the Island has been unusually good. The want of water was severely felt in the latter part of the year, but a copious supply was introduced from the springs about five miles from the city in the month of December, which was most acceptable to the inhabitants as well as to the labourers residing in the villages and estates adjacent to the city.

18. Immigration.

The contracts with the Barbadians and Portuguese expired this year, and with few exceptions they have not been renewed, while on the other hand the number of passports demanded by the labourers upon the expiry of their term of service was very limited, and even making every allowance for those who may have returned without this document the number could not exceed 150, thus leaving the bulk of immigrants still engaged in agriculture. The want of labour is very apparent, and immigrants would readily find employment.

19. General.

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The general condition of the Island may be considered more satisfactory. The great change in the Constitution from the "King, Lords, and Commons" to a Governor and Single Chamber is expected to produce much good. The machinery of legislation is more simple, while its elements are not so liable to influence from party spirit or faction, both evils, productive of vast mischief in small communities, where two races too often contend for power to the injury of the mass.

The change has been effected without unkind feeling, and the new Chamber will bring to bear all its energy and ability in pushing forward various measures which have been in abeyance for some time pending the change already referred to.

The agriculturists have reaped an abundant sugar crop, far exceeding their expectations, while the new staple of cotton has assisted with its 590,000 lbs. in contributing to the wealth of the Colony.

Commerce, which might have been expected to improve, has not shown that vitality which could be desired; business is stagnant; and that confidence essential to prosperity is lacking in commercial circles.

There is a marked improvement in the appearance of the people. Occupation has been afforded both by the agriculturist as well as by the construction of the waterworks; but the tone of morality, it is much to be regretted, does not exhibit an equal amount of healthiness.

I have, &c., (Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Colonel Stephen J. Hill, C.B., Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 12.

Sub-Encl. 1 in

Address of his Excellency Sir Benjamin C. C. Pine, Administrator of the Government of the Leeward Islands, delivered to the Legislative Council and House of Assembly on the 10th October 1866.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

After some unavoidable delay I have much pleasure in meeting you in order to avail myself of your advice and assistance.

At the opening of the session, under other circumstances, there would be many subjects upon which I should desire to address you, but on this occasion I feel that the subject which I am about to present to your consideration is of such paramount importance as to demand our undivided attention.

On my assumption of this Government it seemed to me that it was in some respects not in a satisfactory condition.

Its financial embarrassment was doubtless in part owing to the severe droughts under which the Island lately suffered, but it also seemed in part owing, and other defects seemed entirely owing, to imperfections in your administrative machinery.

I was satisfied that these imperfections did not arise from any neglect on the part of those charged with the Executive Government; and I was also satisfied that they could not be removed by the mere action of the Executive Government as now constituted, for otherwise your able Governor would have removed them even as he removed many defects and abuses which came within the reach of his authority.

I felt therefore convinced that these evils arose out of the cumbrous nature of your Legislature and out of the defective organization of your Executive Government, and that they could only be effectually eradicated by simplifying the one and re-organizing and strengthening the other.

But considering my brief tenure of office, I had resolved not to initiate any measure for effecting these objects and to confine myself to administering the Government as I found it.

Circumstances however which it is unnecessary for me to mention to you have led me to change this determination, and to examine your political institutions with the view of endeavouring to amend them.

Your present Constitution was the creation of other times and of circumstances which have long passed away.

At the period of its creation the science of Colonial Government was in its infancy. The only model which presented itself to the eyes of early colonists was that of the English Constitution, then itself far from perfect. A rude imitation of this Constitution was imposed on all Colonies, whether of the dimensions of kingdoms or parishes.

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But this kind of Constitution, unsuited to a small Colony at any time, was not quite so incongruous

at the time it was established in this Island as it is at present.

At that time there lived in the Island a large body of wealthy landowners, having ample lessure to devote to public affairs. They alone possessed political rights, and with few exceptions even personal

liberty.

Socially, nearly upon an equality among themselves, it is not surprising that they accommodated. themselves to a Constitution which gave them equal rights and was capable of being so worked as to become popular; almost republican in relation to themselves, purely oligarchical in relation to the classes below them.

In such a Government everything would then work smoothly enough; there could be no collision except personal ones, political collision between classes could not occur, for there was only one class in possession of political power.

But since those days vast changes have occurred.

The old race of landowners has for the most part passed away, and those of them that remain, and the newer resident proprietors, few in number, altogether are compelled by the altered state of affairs to devote all their time to the cultivation of their estates.

Further, the progress of events, and especially the great measure of emancipation, have called into

civil existence masses of people formerly excluded from all rights.

In the olden time all who had civil rights at all were represented in the Legislature; now the franchise is possessed by 500 persons out of 37,000. This representation is now unsatisfactory.

Our legislative system is moreover far too cumbrous for the proper despatch of business. How many important bills are delayed for weeks and months in passing through your Houses, and after all are sometimes so defective as to require further legislation.

While a measure is dragging its slow length from House to House it is simply delayed, not considered.

The Executive branch of the Government is even more defective than the Legislative.

In former days there was really no distinct Executive Government. The Legislature through its committees executed the laws which itself had made.

An attempt was made to alter this vicious system by the establishment of the Administrative

It is impossible to deny that this measure has effected improvement, but it is equally impossible to deny that it has failed to do any considerable part of the good which was expected of it.

The system of committees is still retained in the form of boards, which disburse a considerable part of the revenue which ought to be disbursed by responsible officers.

The abolition of the salaries of the Administrative Committee has made it more difficult to get competent men to devote themselves to the public work. On the other hand, to restore the salaries would tend sooner or later to engender struggles for office.

In fact the great danger of the system is that it may lead to party Government, which in a small community is only another name for faction and anarchy.

I proceed to submit to you the measures by which I propose to remedy the evils and defects which I have tried to point out.

In considering the proposed alteration in the Legislature, two courses presented themselves to my advisers and myself. One of these was to substitute for the existing Legislature a Chamber composed exclusively of nomines of the Crown, making the Island what is called a Crown Colony; the other course was to establish a single Legislative Chamber consisting one half of officers and nominees of the Crown, and the other half of persons elected by the people, giving a casting vote to the Crown.

The portion of the community favourable to a change in the Legislature has been divided on this subject, and the discussions and political movements to which this division has given rise have been to me a source of much anxiety and perplexity.

After the most careful and anxious consideration I have determined to submit to you a bill to establish a single Legislative Chamber composed in the manner I have just mentioned, rather than one to establish the Crown Colony system.

This was my original proposal, and I adopt it because I believe that while it will effect all the practical good attainable by the other measure, it will leave enough of the elective element of your present Constitution to enable the voice of the people to be distinctly heard.

I believe also that this measure will go far to remove the evils of the present system of Legislature.

It gives us one compact Chamber, in which all interests are fairly represented, in place of our present cumbrous machinery.

It devolves the duty of preparing and submitting bills upon responsible and properly paid officers of the Crown, instead of upon unpaid and therefore really irresponsible members of committees.

It indeed increases the power of the Crown in the Legislature, but in whose favour does it do so? In favour of order and of steady progressive legislation. Above all, in favour of the unrepresented classes. I have said that the representation is now unsatisfactory, because while the mass of the people are not represented, to extend the franchise to them would be simply impracticable. This measure solves the difficulty. Who is so fitting a representative of the peasantry of these Islands as that Crown of England which called them into being as free men and citizens, and will ever be their protector while the Queen's flag flies in your land?

The measure for the reform of the Executive Government will be submitted to you later. simply abolish the Administrative Committee, and devolve its duties on the paid officers of the Crown, and will provide for a proper audit of the public accounts.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

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BENJ. C. C. PINE.

Now, gentlemen, I dismiss you to your labours, and may our Heavenly Father guide and enlighten you in considering the important measure submitted to you, concerning as it does the present and future prosperity and happiness of the people of this Island.

ANTIGUA.

Council Chamber, Oct. 10, 1866.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 12.

Sub-Encl. 2 in

REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION for the Year 1866.

In commencing their annual report on the state of the schools of Antigua for the past year, the Commissioners of Education beg leave to state that the hope held out by them in their last report of an improved attendance, both as to number and regularity, throughout the schools of the Island, has not proved altogether unfounded; the improvement has been pretty general, and in one or two cases considerable, though in the last quarter of the year many suffered from the sickness which always more or less prevails among children at that season. At the close of the year there were 52 schools in operation receiving Government aid, of which 23 were Church of England schools, 20 Moravian, and nine Wesleyan schools. The changes made have been few and inconsiderable; a mixed school at the Point, founded and for some time supported by a private individual, was at the beginning of the year annexed to the Moravian Schools and placed on the Government list; the Moravian Infant and Juvenile Schools at Grace Hill have been embodied to form a mixed school, and at the Newfield Moravian station a juvenile and infant school have been formed in lieu of the large mixed school there.

The attendance in the schools throughout the year was-

Church or Denomination	on.	Number on Books.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage.
Church of England		1,394	871	62.4
Moravian -		1,608	1,020	63.4
Wesleyan -		619	381	61.5
Total		3,621	2,272	62 · 4

being an increase of 293 on the books, and 364 in average attendance, which is equal to an improvement of 5·1 per cent. on that of the year 1865.

Notwithstanding the book grant of 80*l*. mentioned in the last report of the Commissioners, the books in many of our schools (particularly those used by the younger portion of the children) again need replenishing, and for that purpose the Commissioners have voted a sum of 40*l*.; with this they propose procuring suitable books themselves, and dividing them among the several schools in accordance with their requirements. The Commissioners would gladly, were it in their power, grant larger sums for this purpose, as they are well aware that the ministers in charge of schools seldom have any fund at their disposal for the purchase of these necessaries, to supply which, from the treatment they usually receive at the hands of the children, is no inconsiderable part of the difficulty experienced in the maintenance of schools.

There have been but few changes made among the teachers, and those generally for the better; the rules passed by the Commissioners prevent the appointment to schools of teachers who cannot obtain a certificate of competency at the annual examination, and thus influenced, ministers seldom fail to procure the services of men trained at one or other of the training schools of the Island, when such are to be procured; notwithstanding this it will be found difficult to maintain an efficient staff of teachers here, while in other islands, where the standard of efficiency for teachers is no higher than it is here, considerably better salaries are offered them. When the year closed there were 76 teachers in charge of the Government schools, including assistants, many of whom are only sewing mistresses. The total salary paid them according to the quarterly returns was 1,626l. 7s. 1\frac{3}{4}d., or an average salary each of 21l. 4s. per annum.

Of those teachers who presented themselves at the last annual examination, five passed in the second class and 10 in the third class; those in the second class have received gratuities at the rate of 5l. per annum each, while the gratuities due to those who had passed in the previous examination in 1864 have been continued up to the present time. The sum expended by the Commissioners in this way for the whole year was 39l. 15s.

Four pupil-teachers with a salary of 5*l*. per annum each have been appointed, and there is a probability of the number being increased when young persons qualified for the office have been procured by those schools which are entitled no them. The Commissioners regret that it is not in their power to make any return to the teachers for the additional labour which pupil-teachers entail on them. The two young persons towards whose maintenance at the Spring Gardens "Girls" Training School the Commissioners granted the quarterly sum of 3*l*. 18*s*., have since been employed as assistant teachers, and their places filled by two others, for whose benefit the Commissioners continue to make the usual grant.

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The total cost of the schools, as gathered from the quarterly returns, was 1,648*l*. 1s. 10\frac{3}{4}d., towards which the Commissioners granted 722*l*. 6s. 5d., the remainder of the income being derived from school fees and funds obtained from extraneous sources.

The Commissioners are also pleased to report that the amount received from the children in the shape of school fees has continued to increase during the past year; this they consider a source of encouragement both present and future, being a proof of the ability and willingness of the labouring population to pay a small part of the cost of that education which they are daily beginning to value more and more.

The sum obtained from this source was 348l. 17s. $2\frac{3}{4}d$., being nearly 70l. more than that received in 1865, and 154l. in excess of the school fees of 1864.

Or to state the above particulars with reference to each child, it would appear that during the year—

The cost of education according to return was $\begin{bmatrix} s. & d. \\ - & 9 & 1\frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & - & - & - & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & - & - & - & 1 & 11\frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}$ per caput, the latter of which is nearly double the sum received in 1864.

Of the state of the schools themselves the Commissioners are also able to report more favourably, both with regard to their general management and the comparative proficiency of the pupils; the irregularity of the attendance, which seems almost irremediable, and the early age at which children are often removed from school by their parents, tend to make the latter however very fluctuating, and much more difficulty is experienced in maintaining a certain standard of merit, even for a year, than in obtaining that standard. In many of our schools steady progress has been made in the primary and essential subjects, and few of these even in which no great improvement is noticeable, can be said to have retrograded much.

At the close of the year there were 38.6 per cent. of the number on the books able to read the Scriptures. In no subject so much as in this do cur children improve so rapidly up to a certain point, and in no subject do they less seldom obtain efficiency; while in almost all of our schools the elder children can always read readily and correctly, individual cases of good intelligent reading are only occasionally met with. Among our best readers we notice that the girls invariably read with most fluency, the boys with most intelligence. There is reason to be satisfied with the progress made in writing, though from a variety of causes less success attends the instruction in this subject than that in any other; the most important of these causes are the unwillingness of parents to provide copy books (in the Windward Schools, where this difficulty is most felt, the writing is least satisfactory); the imperfection of the instruction (the pupils being sometimes it is feared rather permitted to write than taught to write); the inadequate supply of a proper variety of pens (the children often have to write the three different hands, large, round, and small, with the same pen), and no child using the same pen on two consecutive occasions. The last of these evils might easily, and should certainly be remedied.

During the last half-year, the results of the written examination in spelling show a marked improvement on the year 1865, the per-centage of errors on the number of words written varying from 1.4 to 18.9; the three best schools were Green Bay, Spring Gardens, and Cedar Hall, all Moravian juvenile schools. Though in arithmetic great intelligence and considerable proficiency are frequently met with, the Commissioners cannot report that a thoroughly satisfactory standard of accuracy and efficiency in this subject has been yet reached by the majority of the schools. The pupils seem seldom to master the principles of any one rule sufficiently to enable them to apply those principles with any degree of readiness or skill to the solution of new problems.

Of the historical facts of the Scriptures, the knowledge possessed by the more advanced pupils in nearly all of our schools is in many cases very creditable and in some highly satisfactory, but the desultory character of the oral lessons, which are frequently given without any regard to chronological order, tends to leave the minds of the younger children in great confusion as to the order and succession of events, and in this subject, as also in geography and grammar, the knowledge gained from oral instruction must always be imperfect, disconnected, and fragmentary, in a more or less degree as the master may be able or indifferent in imparting such instruction. In the two latter subjects there are few of our more intelligent children who do not possess many useful pieces of information, but there are none who can be considered satisfactorily acquainted with either subject.

In conclusion, the Commissioners, though they think they have on the whole good reason to be satisfied with the condition of the schools, both during the past year and at the present time, and with school prospects for the present year, still they cannot but admit that there are schools now in receipt of Government aid whose sphere of usefulness in the cause of education are and must necessarily be, from the nature of the case, of the most limited kind, and they are convinced that could the number of the schools in the smaller villages be judiciously lessened, and one or two stations at present unoccupied provided with infant schools without seriously affecting denominational interests, the cause of education would be greatly benefited without any additional outlay, either public or private, being necessitated.

The Commissioners append quarterly summaries of attendance, &c.,* together with an account showing the state of their funds after meeting all claims upon them for the year 1866.

(Signed) G. W. WESTERBY, Chairman pro tem.

MONTSERRAT.

MONT-SERRAT.

No. 13.

No. 13.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hill, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 121.)

My Lord Duke, Leeward Islands, Antigua, October 8, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from President Pyne forwarding the Blue Book and Report on the same.

2. The delay that has arisen in preparing this document is attributed to the increased duties imposed on the Colonial Secretary without any clerical assistance being afforded him.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STEPHEN J. HILL,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

Governor-in-Chief, Leeward Islands.

COPY of a DESPATCH from President Pyne to his Excellency Colonel S. J. HILL, C.B.

(No. 24.)

Government House, Montserrat, September 28, 1867.

I have the honour to forward three copies of the annual Blue Book for the year 1866.

- 2. The Colonial Secretary has explained to me that the delay which has arisen in preparing the statistics contained therein has been owing to the increase which has been made by the Legislature to the duties of his office without affording him any clerical aid. I concur with the Colonial Secretary that since it has devolved upon him to perform the duties of the late Loan Commissioners, in addition to many others, it has become imperative that he should be allowed the services of a clerk.
- 3. I did not assume the administration of the Government of this Colony until May 1867, I, therefore, have no personal knowledge from observation of the varied and interesting statistics collected. I, however, subjoin the following summary of the principal items forming the Returns.

Revenue and Expenditure.

This year, as compared with last year, commenced with a debt of 681l. 11s. $0\frac{3}{4}d$., against 65l. 6s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$. of the previous year, showing an increased liability on the outset of 616l. 4s. $3\frac{1}{4}d$. To meet this arrear an Act was passed increasing the half-yearly instalment of the tax on the value of real property payable on the 10th of February 1866 from 7s. 6d. per cent. to 12s. 6d. per cent., which raised as um of 348l. 17s. over the usual instalment. The export duty on horned cattle was temporarily increased for one year from 8s. per head to 20s., which also yielded a satisfactory augmentation to the revenue. Under an Act passed in January to provide for the care of the poor and lunatics, the assessment of a poor rate on the value of real property to meet the expenses of the maintenance of the poor supplemented the general revenue 712l. 1s. $4\frac{3}{4}d$. A Stamp Act also passed, which did not come into operation until late in the year. This Act works satisfactorily.

MONT-SERRAT The return of the revenue and expenditure of 1866 is as follows:-

Revenue, 1866.			Expend	iture,	1866				
Revenue, 1866. Import duties Export duties	1,620 728 1 1,398 1 174 712 34 1 220 1 129 1 3 110 64 87 34 1	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Debt of 1865 Civil establishment - Judicial do Ecclesiastical do. Registration of births, &c. Poor and lunatics - Public printing - Roads Sanitary and quarantine	£ - 656 699 431 49 628 58 45 222 110 85 56 100 504 522 15 35 632	8. 19 14 10 8 5 1 10 10 1 1 12 7 0 11 19 3 0 9	d. - 4 ¹ / ₂ 4	£ 681	s. 111	$\frac{d}{3\frac{1}{2}}$
	£5,671 1	14 41				£	5,671	14	41/4

Revenue.

The entire cost of collecting and disbursing the revenue, including all incidental expenses, is 144l. 0s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$., or $1\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on the amount raised.

	Exp	enditure.						c		,
The expenditure of 186 But after deducting ex and "extraordinary"	penditure of a nature, viz.,	"tempor	ary"	5 -				£ 604	3	d. 83/4
debt from that of last	year -		1000	616	4	$3\frac{1}{4}$				
Building a pier -		and the	0.	504		23/4				
Stamps and dies -	A STATE OF THE STA		-	15	3	6				
Weights and measures	as standards			35	0	0				
Grant to Wesleyans			-	100		0				
Cholera medicines and	quarantine			156	2		1,4	27	1	6
The excess of "fixed ex	xpenditure" is						1	77	2	23/4
A police force has been es	stablished, con	sisting of						4		
					£	5	. (d.		
An Inspector	-	-	-	-	12	0 ()	0		
1 Sergeant			-	-)			
8 Privates at		All real	-	-	28	8 ()	0		
Rent of statio	n -	10-1 m	•		4	0 ()	0		
					49	8 ()	0		
				37			£	s.	d.	
The fees paid into	the Treasury	for 11 m	onths	amou	int t		37		6	
And the services of which const	of a public na	ture for	the pe	erforn	nanc	e				
annually, may b	e estimated at	the very	low r	ate of	f	- 10	00	0	0	
						18	37	5	6	

The old system of having constables who were paid by fees was most objectionable, and attended with very bad results, as the constables could never be depended upon for the peace and good order of the community.

MONT-SERRAT.

Public Debt.

The Colony's liability to Her Majesty's Government on account of 23,000l. advanced in 1844 for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake of 1843 has continued to be punctually met.

	£	S.	d.
The thirteenth instalment of principal (3,000l.) retained by the Colony for the restoration of public buildings, with			
interest	189	0	0
Thirteenth instalment of 7,118l. with interest, for which the Colony is made liable by the default of private borrowers whose properties have been sold without realizing the			
amount lent	448	8	7
Total thirteenth instalment	637	8	7
Currency debt of 378 14 31			10
Interest on above	34	1	43

The loss in taking up the mutilated currency of the island is owing to the amount of coins in base metal, and the large quantity of copper pieces called "dogs," which passed for $\frac{2}{7}$ of a penny sterling, and were of no intrinsic value.

Public Buildings.

These are very much out of repair, nothing beyond temporary repairs seem to have been effected this year, or indeed for many years previously, owing to the perennial opposition of the late House of Assembly to every attempt of the Executive to remedy the evil.

The principal public buildings of Montserrat may be said to consist of,-

- 1. The Gaol.
- 2. The Court House.
- 3. The Saint Anthony's Church.
- 4. The Church of St. George.
- 5. The Church of St. Peter.6. The Chapel of Ease in Plymouth.7. The Kinsale Chapel.
- 7. The Kinsale Ona 8. The Workhouse.
- 9. The Hospital.
- 10. The Lunatic Asylum.

The Gaol.

This building is deficient in size and accommodation. There exist no means of preventing the indiscriminate association together of male and female prisoners during the time they are allowed to take out-door exercise in the gaol yard.

There are no proper latrines for either class of offenders, a want which results in practices very unwholesome if not absolutely perilous to health in a tropical climate. There are no baths or sanitary arrangements of any kind. The ventilation is decidedly insufficient.

There are no store-rooms, and the system at present in vogue for provisioning the gaol is open to much objection. No contracts are entered into for stores, and the procuring of sufficient food to meet the daily wants of the prisoners is precarious and unsatisfactory; upon the whole, however, I have thought the gaol the best organized and decent of our institutions.

The Court House.

The interior of this building is utterly out of repair, and the windward side of the roof has lately fallen in; so bad is the state of this building that at the last session of the Court of Queen's Bench the Judge openly said in court that he should have locked up two juries had he had a place to confine them sufficiently protected from the weather.

MONT-SERRAT. Churches.

There are five churches in this Island, as specified in the list above, of these two may be considered as comparatively safe to remain in during Divine service; of the others, the roof of one of them threatens to fall in at any moment; the others have already fallen in, and are consequently utterly deserted.

The tax payers of these districts complain, very naturally, that they punctually pay

their taxes and have no facility for attending Divine worship.

Workhouse, Hospital, and Lunatic Asylum.

These buildings are contiguous to each other, and are collectively known as the "Château." They present a most lamentable spectacle of inadequate accommodation and general disorganization. There is but one superintendent, one subordinate overseer, and one matron to attend to the entire requirements of the whole combined establish-

ments; the average number of inmates at any one time being about 50 to 60.

In none of these buildings is there a single latrine, the consequence being that paupers, lunatics, and invalids wander promiscuously into the adjoining fields or bush country for the purpose for which provision would be made in any well-organized community. They thus wander at will, unattended and uncontrolled. There is no wall round any of these buildings, and no attempt whatever at sub-division of boundaries for the purpose of classification of the inmates of institutions of so dissimilar a character. At ordinary times of recreation lunatics, paupers, and invalids of both sexes wander and mingle together under the shade of trees in various parts of the grounds. Nothing can be more unsuited to the state of a lunatic, and nothing more cruel and trying to the other unhappy creatures who are lingering in their old age from poverty or sickness.

By reason of the absence of enclosures escape is not only not prevented, but positively invited. The superintendent informs me that lunatics do continually escape and wander for days or weeks, as the case may be, over the Island before they can be discovered and

retaken.

The record books of the "Château" bring to light the most sad and horrible details of lunatic females giving birth to illegitimate children while in the asylum. And these disgraceful calamities are, I presume, unavoidably passed over as impossible to guard against, owing to the difficulty of 'keeping the inmates within separate bounds. Throughout these institutions beds are only partially provided, and the cells for lunatics are not all boarded.

In the hospital will be seen but few windows and doors, and there are no means of giving separate quarters to persons afflicted with different species of disease, with the exception of leprosy. Those suffering from this terrible complaint are congregated together in a shed, through which both rain and wind pass freely, the roof and sides being decayed for want of timely repair. There is no floor to this shed, and in the rainy season it is a mass of mud and dirt.

Owing to a rather prevalent belief that leprosy is a contagious and infectious malady those unfortunate people are little tended or cared for. Those who can assist themselves do so as best they can, and those who are in a more advanced stage of disease are entirely dependent on the disposition or capability of their less suffering comrades.

Before quitting this subject it is my duty to observe that no blame can properly be

attached to this government in respect of the circumstances above narrated.

I have already remarked that under the late constitution it was not always feasible to obtain a willing co-operation of the House of Assembly. And moreover for the last 20 years this Island has been without intermission overwhelmed with debts, and every available shilling has been applied to the liquidation of the Colony's liabilities. Increased taxation to any great extent is impossible. The present taxes are in many instances excessive, burdensome, and unequally assessed. The whole country has for many years been in a most depressed condition, and has lost one by one its best sources of wealth.

The agriculture of the Island has been at a standstill, and almost abandoned. The once beautiful and lucrative plantations (the export duty upon the produce of which yielded a handsome revenue to the exchequer) are now uncultivated, and the valuable machinery dismantled and useless, while on the other hand the country has had to contend with the heavy obligations created by the Earthquake Loan of 1843,

which it is still discharging by annual instalments.

Roads.

The public roads are annually repaired by means of statute labour under the Road Act.

Legislation.

Twelve enactments were passed during the year.

1. "An Act to provide for the care and maintenance of the Poor and Lunatics."

"An Act to grant to Her Majesty a Stamp Tax."
 "An Act to establish a Police Force in this Island."

- 4. "An Act to grant to Her Majesty a Tax or Duty upon certain articles exported from this Island."
- 5. "An Act to vest certain powers in the Captain of Fort Barrington for the better enforcing of Quarantine in this Island."

6. " An Act to amend the Poor and Lunatic Act."

7. "An Act for establishing certain regulations of Police for this Island."

8. "An Act to regulate the Registration of Deeds and Wills."

9. "An Act to suspend the operation of part of the Stamp Act, 1866, and to amend the said Act."

10. "An Act for establishing a Board of Public Works.

11. "An Act to repeal the 29th Section of the Constitution Act, 1862.

12. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of the Island of Montserrat.

The necessity for simplifying the Legislature of this Colony and adopting one more suited to the available materials admitted of no question.

The new Constitution Act abrogates the late Legislative Assembly, and destroying the elective element therein commits the Government of the Island more immediately to the care of the Crown.

It establishes a Legislative Council, to be composed of the Governor and not more than five Councillors, who shall be appointed by Her Majesty by warrant under Her sign manual and signet, who henceforth will designate such officers as She may think fit to be respectively official or ex-officio and unofficial members of the said Council.

Population.

The population by the ce	ensus	of 1861	was -			7,645
Births from 1862 to 1866	-	-	- 1	4	1,472	1
Deaths in same period		-	-	-	769	
Increase	from	births			-	703
Estimate	ed pop	pulation	1866		-	8,348

Annual increase for five years of 1.84 per cent.

COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS for 1865 and 1866.

PARISHES.	No. of Births.	Legi	timate.	Illeg	itimate.	No. of
	Dirtns.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Deaths.
St. Anthony						
and St. Patrick	156	19	20	61	56	90
St. Peter	86	16	15	29	26	23
St. George	105	20	17	31	37	46
1866	347	55	52	121	119	159
1865	248	44	52	81	71	148

			DE	CATHS.			MARRIAGES.	
	Ad	ults.	Under 14 over 1	years, and	One year	and under.		
	М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
1866 - 1865 -	39 50	61 45	11 8	13 11	20 20	15 12	28 18	

MONT-SERRAT

100 REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

MONT-SERRAT. The estimate of population is exclusive of immigration, which has within a few years been steadily going on from Barbados and Antigua, while emigration to Trinidad and St. Vincent has ceased.

Education.

No Local Government grant is afforded to the schools in this Island, but it is hoped that this state of things will shortly be improved.

DAY SCHOOLS

	No.	No	o. of Schola	rs.	Cost.
Name of the last o		M.	F.	Total.	Costa
Church of England Wesleyans -	9 4	292 111	323 77	615 188	£ 138 60
		A STATE OF		803	£198

The Roman Catholic day school has been closed for want of means.

The schools in connexion with the Church of England are supported by funds placed at the disposal of the Bishop of Antigua by the Home Government and by Christian ladies' societies in England; those of the Wesleyans by voluntary contributions principally received from England.

The currency and the weights and measures are the same as are in use in Great

Britain.

COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT of IMPORTS and EXPORTS of 1865 and 1866.

		Imp	orts.				Expo	orts.	Sugar
	Value.		Duty	7.	Va	lue.		Duty.	Crops.
1865	£ s. 15,795 2	$\frac{d}{1\frac{1}{2}}$	£ s		£ 20,915	s. 15	d. 4	£ s. d. 389 8 $10\frac{1}{2}$	Hhds. 1,052
1866	18,684 10	92		$7 9\frac{1}{4}$	19,898		9	728 16 6	1,587

SHIPPING.

X		Inwards.			OUTWARDS.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crew.
1865 -	161	5,272	922	143	4,520	480
1866 -	159	6,301	903	143	5,617	832

Charitable Institutions.

Hospital Poor House and Lunatic Asylum combined. Daily average number of inmates:—

	LUNATICS	•		Poor.	
M.	F.	Total.	М.	F.	Total.
4	4	8	22	20	42

Total inmates 50, who, with poor receiving out-door relief, cost 628l. 5s. $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ for the year.

His Excellency Col. S. J. Hill, C.B., &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. PYNE,
President.

ST. KITTS.

St. Kitts. No. 14.

No. 14.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 130.)

Leeward Islands, Antigua,

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the Lieutenant-

Governor of St. Kitts, forwarding the Blue Book for the year 1866.

I have, &c. (Signed) ST

STEPHEN J. HILL,

Governor-in-Chief,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

Leeward Islands.

(No. 102.)

Government House, Basseterre, St. Kitts,

August 16, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency herewith the Blue Book for

1866, the year preceding my arrival in this Colony.

As Mr. Holligan in his report accompanying the Blue Book of 1865 entered very fully into a detailed examination of the condition of this Colony, I am unable, with my short experience of St. Kitts, to add anything to the account which he drew up last year with so much ability.

Duties, Taxes, Fees.

During the year 1866 there were no changes in the tariff of duties or in the schedule of fees, except that, owing to the flourishing state of the exchequer, it was found practicable to remit for one year, that is, for nine months of 1866 and for three of the current year, 15 per cent. of the export and import duties.

An equal remission was also made in 1866 on the export tax for immigration purposes in consequence of the large balance which remained to the fund set apart for special

purposes of immigration not being required.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866 fell short of that of 1865 by the sum of 572l. 4s. 10d., and this diminution may be fairly attributed to the diminished sugar crops, for although the crop of 1866 was a good one, it was considerably below the exceptionably fine crop of 1865.

of 1866 was a good one, it was considerably below the exceptionably fine crop of 1865. The revenue for the year 1866 was 24,504l. 12s. 5d., while that of 1865 was 25,076l. 17s. 3d. The balance in the treasury at the end of the year 1866 available for the service of 1867 was 5,436l. 9s. 7d.

Public Works.

Nothing has been expended in the past year on public works beyond the sums required for the repairs of the several buildings belonging to Government and the general improvement of the roads of the Island.

Legislation.

The most important Acts that have been passed in the last year are,—

1. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of the Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla."

2. "An Act to make better provision for the conduct of the Executive Government of the Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla."

3. "An Act to amend the Laws relative to the Repairs of the Roads."

By the first of these Acts the constitution existing was abolished, and a single Chamber substituted for the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, which had hitherto transacted the business of the Colony under the guidance of the Administrative Committee.

St. Kitts.

The new Chamber appointed by this Act consists of 20 members, of whom three hold seats ex-officio, viz., the Attorney-General, the Secretary to Government, and the Auditor-General. Seven are nominated by the Governor, subject to the approval of Her Majesty, and 10 members are elected by the respective parishes. The Governor is authorized to appoint one of the nominated members as paid President with a double or casting vote.

By the same Act the duration of Assemblies, which had previously been limited to

three years, was fixed at five.

The second Act, viz., "To make better provision for the conduct of the Executive "Government," &c., was a necessary consequence of the above-mentioned Act, the operation of which it more clearly defined.

It begins by abolishing the Administrative Committee, and provides that the Executive Council previously existing shall remain the same until or unless Her Majesty shall

otherwise determine.

It provides for the appointment by the Queen of a Secretary to Government and an Auditor-General, to be with the Attorney-General (already appointed by previous legislation) the three officers of Government, who are also ex-officio members of the Executive Council.

The 3rd Act above mentioned is the "Road Bill," which was carried last year after a great deal of opposition on the part of the landed interest. This Bill provides for the appointment of a surveyor of roads, under whose direction all public roads in the

Island shall be repaired.

By this enactment all proprietors or possessors of estates are compelled to repair and keep in order such portions of the public road as pass along or through their lands, while all wall and other mason work necessary to be built are repaired at the public expense by

the surveyor.

This Bill, which at the time was looked upon as a most arbitrary and unjust measure, and was opposed with great energy by the representatives of most of the estates, has worked thoroughly well and given universal satisfaction, and even those who the most strenuously opposed the measure are now constrained to recognize the great advantages that have resulted from it, and admit that their opposition was, however natural, founded on mistake.

His Excellency Colonel Hill, C. B., Governor-in-Chief, Antigua. I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. MACKENZIE.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Nevis.

NEVIS.

No. 15.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hill, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 131.)

My Lord Duke, Leeward Islands, Antigua, September 9, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from Lieutenant-Governor Mackenzie forwarding the Blue Book of Nevis, with a Report thereon, for the year 1866.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) STEPHEN

STEPHEN J. HILL, Governor-in-Chief,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham & Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

Leeward Islands.

(No. 103.)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward to your Excellency the Nevis Blue Book in duplicate for 1866 (the year preceding my arrival in this Colony), with the Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Colonel Hill, C.B., Governor-in-Chief, Antigua.

(Signed)

J. G. MACKENZIE. Lieutenant-Governor. REPORT on Annual Blue Book, for the year 1866.

1. Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

Taxes and other sources of revenue are the same as reported for the year 1865 without

2. Fees, although in certain respects altered, will remain in practice as they have been until the law amending the constitution of the Colony takes effect. The Colonial Secretary will then cease to receive what has hitherto been designated "ship's bond fees," that is,—

increase or diminution.

8s. on all vessels under 40 tons.

12s. ,, ,, above 40 tons.

16s. ,, square-rigged vessels,

or outwards.

Rectors, officiating ministers, clerks, and sextons of parochial churches, have ceased to receive fees on the burial of the dead, provision having been made by the Legislature to compensate each participant interested for his vested rights by an annual grant of 50*l*., to be divided according to a specific rule founded on the basis of an average of five years of receipts for this service; on the death or removal of present incumbents, &c. the pecuniary provision reverts to the public chest.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866 compares advantageously over former years save 1865, but when the continuous drought of 1866 is considered, with its consequences, no surprise need take place, the high price of food and all other commodities acted as a restriction upon trade, hence a deficit in the comparative statement of 1866 versus 1865, amounting to 909l. 17s. 5d.; on the other hand the disbursements for the same period amounted for 1865 to 8,060l. 17s. 5d. and for 1866 to 6,883l. 14s. 11d.

The revenue of 1865, amongst other items comprised a loan from the Colonial Bank of 2,000l. sterling, 1,200l. of which was repaid in 1866 with interest at 8 per cent. per annum, consequently, as a matter of fact, the year 1866 exhibits a higher ratio of prosperity than any previous year in our Financial departments.

The local revenues, namely, parochial taxation, has literally ceased to exist. This system of taxation merited its own destruction, it was arbitrary, unfair, and in practice founded upon no principle of uniformity, as may be illustrated by the fact that Nevis is an island of 50 square miles, is divided into five parishes; taxation in each varied according to the will of each respective churchwarden. These officers acknowledged no superior, nor did they account for receipts and expenditure but at pleasure, some of whom are nevertheless entitled to honourable mention.

Comparative yearly Statement of Revenue and Expenditure already above treated.

The public debt is made up of the following items:-

I Hollias Pari, Caccula		1,180		
		500		0
Colonial Bank		500		0
Local exigencies -		400	0	0

On the 1st January 1866 Nevis was indebted 4,200l., on the 1st of January 1867 her debt was reduced to one half of the above amount, and there is little doubt if our resources are maintained upon the present financial system, barring new and unforeseen causes of expenditure, we shall, by the 31st day of December 1867, be freed from embarrassment.

Military Expenditure.
None.

Public Works.

The ecclesiastical property by law has been taken over by the public, if not actually, certainly virtually; consequently, building and repairing, the furnishing of the sacramental elements, and other expenses necessary for the conducting of the ordinances of the Church, must fall upon the public revenue generally.

NEVIS.

NEVIS.

The court-house requires some repairs not exceeding 201.

The gaol finishings are somewhat incomplete in respect to pointing of the exterior walls, and plastering a part of the interior.

Queen's House will require for repairs 25l., for repairs of furniture 25l.=50l.

Legislation, &c.

The Laws passed during the year were few, and the Proclamations only relate to incendiary fires and matters of minor importance, a detail of which follows:-

1. "An Act to establish a Post Office in the Island of Nevis, specially confirmed by order of Her Majesty in Council."

2. "A Proclamation declaring the Island of Martinique to be an infected place, and therefore subjected to Quarantine."

3. "A Proclamation releasing the Island of Martinique from Quarantine restrictions." 4. "An Act to make better Provision for the Conduct of the Executive Government of the Island of Nevis."

5. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of Nevis."

6. "A Proclamation declaring the Islands of Saint Thomas and Seba to be infected

places, and therefore subjected to Quarantine."
7. "A Proclamation appointing a special sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas."

8. "A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses for the space one month."

9. "A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses from 27th December to 3rd of January 1867."

Political Franchise (ab initio).

Council and Assembly.

These institutions have virtually ceased to exist. A single Chamber composed of two ex officio members, namely Colonial Secretary and Solicitor-General, and three nominated members with five elective ones and the Governor as their head, make up the legislative elements of Nevis.

The franchise in respect to qualification of members remains undisturbed.

Civil Establishment.

Represented in pages Nos. 75 to 84 (of Blue Book) and requires no remarks.

Officers Security.

Mentioned in their proper places.

Pensions.

Demand no remarks.

Foreign Consuls.

None.

Population.

This subject of such vital importance has latterly received increased attention, and although the Colony from its limitedness is ill provided with a medical staff, yet the public health has not been neglected, and the records of births and deaths for a period of five years may be safely relied upon in their expressed numbers of each. The population of Nevis is an increasing one from natural fecundity. It has also increased by immigration comprised of Portuguese, Barbadians, and Coolies. The number of the population

at present is about 11,000.

It is to be regretted that the marriage list is very low in proportion per 1,000, but this is to be accounted for by the silly pageantry and show which attend upon every marriage. This institution, unlike baptism or burial, has outgrown its proportions. A peasant's nuptials is equal to an arbitrary contribution levied by an enemy on a community; no wedding is accomplished under an average expenditure of 100l. The bride's wardrobe, the appanage of the bridesmaids, the festal board, the next succeeding sabbatical display at which the interested parties are religiously obligated to repeat the bridal ceremonials and extravagancies of the wedding day are quite sufficient to deter any honest humble man from offering his hand to a female in the ordinary walks of life.

Savings Banks.

NEVIS.

Institutions of this character are not extant in Nevis.

Ecclesiastical Returns.

This subject offers no very material ground for observation, the stipends of the clergy and the support of the establishment remain as heretofore.

Education.

On this subject nothing satisfactory can be advanced; as a matter of fact the rising generation has not been properly cared for by the Legislature, not a shilling of the public revenue of 1866 has been appropriated for this essential purpose. There are eight schools supported by the Church of England and by the Wesleyan Society, aided by extra contributions. The number of scholars now under tuition is less than that of 10 years ago. The cause is the deficiency of funds to support competent teachers. The remedy proposed under the circumstances is, that the Colony must in the next year's estimates provide for education as it does for the administration of justice, the Church, and the support of the Civil Service, otherwise a future remains for Nevis not pleasing to contemplate.

Local Publications.

None.

Coins and Exchanges.

As heretofore reported unaffected by any change.

Imports and Exports.

Imports have somewhat declined, but as this element is dependent upon exports, and that exports have also been limited in quantity, the question may at once be answered, that drought predominated, crops were shortened, and in the ratio of declining crops exports and imports suffered.

Shipping.

The tonnage returns of this Colony have for the last few years exhibited a tendency to decline both in the number of vessels trading and in the aggregate of tonnage; but this affords no evidence of a decay of commerce per se, because the amount of imports for the same period tends upwards. The fact is, that unregistered carrying boats now perform the service that registered vessels performed heretofore.

The trade between Nevis and the neighbouring islands has increased, the means of carriage has undergone a transition. Nevis at present is smally represented by vessels of tonnage, but nearly 150 boats of an aggregate tonnage of 500 carry on the trade. These boats are built at and belong to Nevis, consequently this branch of industry is a monopoly in its favour.

Manufactures, &c.

No matter worthy of remark requires to be stated. Sugar, rum, and molasses have been produced as usual.

Grants of Land.

No land to grant.

Gaols, &c.

The common gaol is a commodious building in good preservation and well suited for the purpose. It is calculated to contain 75 persons, and is subdivided into 18 several apartments. No increase of crime is reported. The sanitary condition has been very much improved, the surface of the courtyard raised with the best material, and the drainage is now perfect.

Charitable Institutions.

Charitable institutions, there are two; one an asylum for the relief of the aged, infirm, and poor. This institution is supported at an expense of 225l. from the public 20043.

NEVIS.

tunds, and from local assistance to some small extent. It is situated within the prescribed limits of Charlestown, and is capable of sheltering 36 persons at one time. Medical and surgical aid is supplied when required at a further cost from the public funds.

There is a Dorças institution which distributes a very considerable amount of readymade clothing once a year to as many of the out-door poor as may be brought under the

notice of the promoters.

Literary.

There is only one institution, a library, kept at the court-house in Charlestown; it is supported by private subscriptions. The Colony has so far patronized it as to place the keeper in the rank of public officers with a suitable salary.

VIRGIN ISLANDS. No. 16.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 115.)

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the President of the Virgin Islands, forwarding the Blue Book for those Islands for the year 1866.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
 &c. &c. Leeward Islands.

(No. 46.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1866, and the report thereon.

His Excellency Governor Hill, C.B., (Signed) ARTHUR RUMBOLD. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1866.

This surplus was occasioned by the collection of the revenue during seven months of the year on an improved system under the provisions of the Revenue Protective Ordinance. This increase would have been considerably greater but the cholera and other epidemics at St. Thomas checked materially both the imports and exports for the last two months of the year.

The expenditure was necessarily larger, and 96l. 12s. $4\frac{1}{2}d$. was spent in Quarantine and Board of Health expenses.

Public Debt.

2. The public debt is entirely extinguished, the last instalment was duly paid off in December last.

Public Works.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

3. The sum of 32*l*. was expended on the necessary repairs of churches and chapels, and 21*l*. in the mending of the highways.

The court-house remains unfinished, 600l. was expended on it in 1865 and the early part of 1866; it requires a further sum of 500l. to complete it. Such is the poverty of the Colony that it is impossible to raise the money in it, though it could easily be repaid by instalments, as an economy of 40l. a year would be effected by its completion, that sum being annually paid for the rent of a court-house and public offices. The money already expended was a grant from the Imperial Government from the first year's unappropriated rent of the Island of Sombrero, which has always been considered as forming a part of the Virgin Islands Government. The liberality of the Imperial Government will be entirely thrown away if this indispensable building be not speedily covered over, as the exposure to the heat of a tropical sun and to rains will soon rapidly split up and destroy the masons' labours.

Legislation.

4. Ten ordinances were passed in 1866, but only two deserve special notice :-

1. The Revenue Protective Ordinance.

By the wise provisions of this ordinance a more effectual supervision of the collection of the revenue has been effected; it was estimated to give an increase of 200*l*. on the year; as it only came into operation after the expiration of the first quarter, and as the ports were almost closed during the last two months of the year in consequence of the unhealthy state of St. Thomas, the estimate was nearly realized, as for the seven months an increase of 101*l*. was effected.

2. An Ordinance to alter the time at which the Land Tax becomes payable.

All the taxes fall due towards the end of the year, and it was deemed advisable therefore to collect the land tax in the first quarter of the year.

Population.

5. The number of births in 1865 are reported to be 218, as against 182 in 1866; the deaths were 133 in 1865, and 118 in 1866; there has not been any emigration or immigration movement, and it is difficult to account for the lesser number, both of births and deaths.

Education.

6. In the Church schools the number of scholars has increased from 196 in 1865, to 229 in 1866; in the Wesleyan schools the number has diminished from 283 in 1865 to 244 in 1866.

Imports and Exports.

7. The is	mports of	1866	have	been i	n	excess	of	those	of	1865	by	1,6091.	The respec-
tive figures	being	-	-		-	1866			-			£10,241	
	against	-	-			1865	-		-		-	8,633	
											-		
												£1,609	

The additional supervision will account for this increase.

The exports present a diminution of 304l.

Those of 1865 being - - - £8,617

Those of 1866 ,, - - - 8,313

£304

All trade and commerce remain nearly stationary in these Islands, the decrease in the exports may be accounted for by the nearly total cessation of exports for two months of the year during which quarantine was in force.

Gaols and Prisoners.

8. There were 45 male prisoners in gaol in 1866, only two were from the general court, all the others being petty sessions cases or peace warrants; there were also 14 female prisoners, all from the court of petty sessions. Crime does not appear to be on the increase, and as the jurisdiction of the petty sessions court is extended so as to embrace nearly all the offences committed, offenders are thus speedily and summarily dealt with.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

General Remarks.

9. In a Colony so depressed it is hopeless to expect to record great results, but a better system of collection of revenue having been substituted, and the imposition of additional import duties having been effected, it is confidently trusted that the salaries of the public officers will be more punctually met, and all public engagements be regularly provided for, and though the imposition of additional taxation is to be regretted, even to defray urgent and unforeseen contingencies, yet it must ever be a matter of deep congratulation that under the blessing of Divine Providence the means adopted to prevent the introduction of cholera and small-pox into these Islands from St. Thomas during the late fearful visitation of that Colony were effectual and successful.

ARTHUR RUMBOLD.

Tortola, July 4, 1867.

Dominica.
No. 17.

DOMINICA.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 63.)

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the Officer administering the Government of Dominica, forwarding the Blue Book of that Colony for the year 1866.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor-in-Chief, Leeward Islands.

(No. 88.)

SIR,

Government House, Roseau, October 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith the returns composing the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

As I was not in the Island during any portion of that period my observations on these

returns will necessarily be somewhat limited.

Taxes and Duties.

2. In addition to the existing taxes and duties a rate of 10 per cent. was this year imposed on all the amounts payable under the authority of the various Acts in force, with certain slight exceptions.

The monies raised by this rate were specially devoted towards the repayment of the loan of 4,000l., which it was found necessary to raise at the commencement of the year.

3. The excise duty on rum and spirits was reduced from 2s. 3d. to 1s. 8d.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. It will be seen that the total revenue of the Colony for the year is represented at 19,166l. 5s. 8d., and the total expenditure at 18,367l. 1s. 6d. But the former sum includes an amount of 4,100l. obtained by loan, while of the latter sum about 3,733l. formed no part of the expenditure proper of the year, but was a pressing debt of the Colony, being indeed for the most part due to the public officers for arrears of salary; and it was to meet this debt that the loan was raised.

Deducting these extra amounts, the revenue and expenditure proper of the Colony for 1866 may be placed respectively at about 15,066l. 5s. 8d. and 14,634l. 1s. 6d.

5. The actual sum collected in the year, exclusive of the loan, was 14,321l. 10s. 6d. against 13,271l. 18s. 9d. in 1865, showing an increase of 1,049l. 11s. 9d. of revenue in 1866.

6. This difference is to be accounted for partly by the imposition of the additional rate of 10 per cent. upon receipts, and partly by the fact that a great portion of the amounts which appear under the heads of Income Tax and House Tax receipts was, though properly due in 1865, not actually paid till the next year.

There was an increase of 621l. 18s. in the receipts from imports, and of 131l. 1s. 8d. in the receipts from exports, over the respective receipts of the previous year; and the income tax and house tax referred to produced together in 1866 a sum of 729l. 12s. 5d.

against 42l. 11s. 9d. received in 1865.

On the other hand there was a decrease in the receipts from tonnage duties and harbour fees; and the excise revenue was less than that of the preceding year by 273l. 19s. 5d.

Public Debt.

7. The public debt of the Colony at the end of 1865 was placed at 10,908l. 8s. 4d. On the 31st December 1866 it amounted to 9,620l.

8. The loan of 4,100l. raised within the year enabled the Colony to meet its standing liabilities, and by the close of the year 1,000l. of the loan was repaid.

Public Works.

9. The principal public work executed during the year was the repair of the court

house, on which a sum of 500l. 6s. 1d. was expended.

10. The maintenance of the public roads is a separate charge, having a special fund. The money collected for this service amounted during the year to 1,249l. 9s. 6d.; but some portion of this was applied to the liquidation of former accounts.

Legislation.

11. Fifteen Acts were passed in the course of the year.

12. Two of these Acts relate to the loan to which reference has been made, providing

for the raising of the same and its repayment.

13. Three other principal Acts were passed relating to the revenue. The first, amending an "Act to impose a duty on the tonnage of vessels entering at ports of the "Island," and authorizing at option a payment of package duties at fixed rates in lieu of tonnage duties. The second, entitled the "Rum Duty Act, 1866," repealing former Acts, regulated the future sale of spirituous liquors, wines, and malt liquors, and provided for a duty on the consumption of rum in the island. The third, entitled the "Customs Duties Act, 1866," altered the schedule of duties payable under the Import Duty Act of 1855.

By this Act the duties on bread and biscuits, butter, cheese, coals, dried and pickled fish, corn meal, hams and bacon, lard, rice, sago, brandy, refined sugar, tar, tiles,

unmanufactured tobacco, and on some woods were increased.

The duties on asses, horses, foals, mules, candles, corn, building lime, peas and beans,

and on some woods were lowered.

The following articles were made subject to an "ad valorem" duty of 10 per cent., namely, bran, bricks, cocoa, coffee, corks, silk and cotton handkerchiefs, dried or preserved fruits, garlic, nuts, pepper, slates, and turpentine.

14. Of the other Acts the principal are:

(1st.) An Act making further provision, by conferring powers on the Board of Health, for preventing the introduction and spread in the Island of infectious diseases. This Act was passed at the time of the epidemics of cholera and yellow fever in some of the neighbouring islands.

(2nd.) An Act to amend the "Prepayment of Postage Act, 1863," which, amongst other provisions, raised the amount of postage on intercolonial letters from

5d. to 6d.

(3rd.) An Act authorizing the payment of public salaries and allowances monthly instead of quarterly.

(4th.) An Act for granting fixed salaries to coroners in lieu of fees and allowances.

This Act has effected a considerable saving to the Colony.

And (5thly). An Act making provision for the proper registration of voters.

Population.

15. The population of Dominica according to the census of 1860 was 25,060.

DOMINICA.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

DOMINICA.

16. The Registrar-General of the Colony, Mr. Lockhart, estimates the population on January 1st, 1867, according to the returns kept up since the census, at 26,398. He contrasts the returns of 1866 favourably with those of the preceding year. that while the number of deaths in a slightly increased population has remained the same with that for the year 1865, the birth rate has increased.

According to his books the number of births during the year was 721, and the number

110

17. The Registrar-General notices the high rate of mortality among the infant population of the Island, which he attributes to the too frequent neglect by parents, and to crowded and unhealthy dwelling-houses.

Ecclesiastical and Educational.

18. The great body of the population is Roman Catholic. The members of the Church of England and of the Wesleyan Mission are limited in number.

19. There are two resident Wesleyan missionaries; one in Roseau, the other on the rthern side of the Island. The Church of England has but one minister, the rector northern side of the Island. of the parish of St. George.

The establishment of the Roman Catholic Church consists of a hishop, a vicar-

general, and 10 priests, who are divided among the parishes of the Island.

20. The Church of England alone is supported by the Colony, at a fixed annual charge

of 376l.

21. For educational purposes the Colony makes an annual grant of 700l., the expenditure of which is subject to the provisions of the "Education Act" of 1863, and is under the direction of a Board of Commissioners presided over by the Governor.

22. Some schools are established and supported entirely by the Government.

are simply assisted.

All so supported or assisted are subject to the control of the Board and of the

Inspector of Schools.

23. No interference is permitted with the religious education of the schools which are assisted, and in the public schools no religious instruction whatever is given.

24. Children above the age of seven years taught in the public schools are required

to pay a fee of 1d. weekly.

The school fees received in 1866 amounted to 37l. 8s. 7d.

25. According to the returns of the past year there were six public schools under the

control of the Board, with a total number of 446 scholars, male and female.

The aggregate cost of these schools was 463l., besides the salary and travelling expenses of the inspector, which amounted to 124l. Only two schools appear to have received assistance from the Board; one a Wesleyan school in the parish of St. Andrew, to the extent of 12l. 10s., and the other, a Roman Catholic boys' school, to the extent of 40l.

26. The Government grant of 700l. is under the circumstances of the Colony a most

liberal grant.

It is much to be desired that the educational advantages to be derived from it should embrace a greater proportion of the population than is at present the case.

The enforcement of the weekly fee is undoubtedly a hindrance to very many children

whose parents are either unable or unwilling to pay it.

The present Educational Act terminates with the year 1867, when the experience of the past few years will doubtless lead to a far wider extension of the benefits of the grant.

Imports and Exports.

27. The total value of the imports into the Colony during the year is given at 61,188l. 13s. 8d.

This is against 52,374l. in 1865, and 43,558l. in 1864.

28. Of this total, the value of the imports directly from Great Britain was 25,941l.; of those from the British Colonies, principally from Barbados, and thus indirectly from Great Britain, 27,589l. 9s. 10d.

The value of the imports from foreign countries, chiefly from the island of Martinique

and from the United States, was 7,657l. 14s. 10d.

29. The increase of 8,814l. 13s. 8d. in the value of the imports in 1866 over those of 1835 appears under the heads of Flour, Hardware, Cottons, Linens, and Silks.

30. The total value of the exports from the Colony during the year is given at 106,452l. 5s. 1d.

31. The chief exports are sugar, rum, molasses, coffee, cocoa, and cattle.

32. There was an increase of 298,863 lbs. in the export of sugar upon that of 1865. There was also a slight increase in the export of cocoa.

DOMINICA:

There was a decrease in the export of coffee.

The facilities of communication with the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe enable a too frequent evasion of the revenue laws.

33. The coffee of Dominica is perhaps of the finest quality in the West Indies; and previous to the blight of 1831 the Island exported sometimes as much as 2,000,000 lbs. in the year.

34. Some little attention has been of late given to the cultivation of cocoa, and with The soil is peculiarly favourable to this cultivation, as it is to that of coffee, success. but the quality of the cocoa produce is not, I believe, equal to that of Trinidad.

Shipping.

35. The total number of vessels that entered at the ports of the Island during the year was 193, with an aggregate total of 7,493 tons, against a total in 1865 of 241 vessels and 7,965 tons.

The total number of vessels that cleared from the Island was 187, with an aggregate

total of 6,630 tons, against a total in 1865 of 237 vessels and 8,211 tons.

The amount of tonnage therefore, both inwards and outwards, was less than in the

36. A principal part of the trade of the Island is with Barbados, British goods being in a great degree imported thence.

Gaols and Prisoners.

37. The total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year was 345, of whom 218 were men and 127 were women.

Of these 19 were under 18 years of age; as many as 327 are stated as being unable to

38. It is to be observed that out of the total number of 345, 126 were committals under the Road Act for default of labour or payment in lieu thereof, and 20 cases were of debtors; thus the number of prisoners committed for general offences was 199:

Charitable Institutions.

39. The Colony makes a liberal provision for its poor.

40. The present system, which is one of in-door relief, out-door relief being given in

exceptional cases, was established in 1858.

- 41. The poor house is situated on Morne Bruce, at a distance of little more than a mile from the town. The buildings of which it consists were formerly the soldiers' barracks.
- 42. The establishment is under the direction of a Board of Guardians, and there is a resident master and a matron.

43. There is no fixed annual grant; but the expenditure is dependent on the

discretion of the Board, subject always to the approval of the Governor.

The expenditure in 1866 was 1,092l. 12s. 5d. over and beyond the salaries paid by the Treasury to the medical attendant and the master and matron, which together amounted to 260l.

The average expenditure for the five preceding years was 1,265l. 3s. 10d. beyond the fixed salaries above mentioned.

44. The number of inmates on the 1st of January 1866 was 86; in the course of the year there were 86 new admissions, making a total of 172 inmates during the year. Of these, 36 died and 43 were discharged, leaving a number of 93 inmates on the 31st of December.

45. A lunatic asylum, with a keeper who receives a salary of 30l., is affiliated to the poor-house establishment.

There were only three inmates during the year, of whom one was discharged.

46. Besides these public establishments there is an infirmary in Roseau which is under private management, but is to a great degree supported by the Colony, which supplies the medical attendance and contributes an annual grant of 160l. in addition.

47. The income of the infirmary in 1866 was 236l. 17s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$.; its expenditure,

258l. 3s. 2d.

112 REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE, &c.

DOMINICA.

48. The number of patients remaining in the establishment on the 1st of January 1866 was 20. There were 167 admissions in the year, making a total of 187 patients, of whom 123 were discharged and 29 died.

49. These remarks on the charitable institutions of the Island would be incomplete, without a notice of the Female Orphan Asylum. This institution is supported by the

Bishop of Roseau, and is attached to the Roman Catholic Convent.

It affords a home to not less than 60 orphan children under the age of 16, who are here not only provided for in a manner that is at once liberal and simple, but are also educated and brought up with scrupulous attention, and carefully trained for the future duties of life.

The institution and its management are an honour to its conductors, and a benefit of

no ordinary degree to the community.

I have, &c. (Signed) H. E. BULWER.

His Excellency Governor Hill, C.B., &c. &c. &c.
Antigua.

REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS For the Year 1866.

PART II.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA;
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND;
THE MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS, &c.

Presented to both Mouses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, 30th March 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE.
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

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NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

CANADA.

No. 1.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor General Viscount Monck to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 86.)

My LORD DUKE,

Ottawa, November 21, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the annual Blue Books for the late Province of Canada, for the years 1865 and 1866, with nine volumes of the Appendix to that of 1865.

I am informed that the Appendix for 1866 is not yet ready, but that as soon as the various Reports can be obtained they will be bound and forwarded.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

I have, &c. (Signed) MONCK.

Nova Scotia, No. 2,

NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 2.

(Not received.)

NEW BRUNSWICK, No. 3. NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 3.

(Not received.)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Dundas to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No 13.)

My LORD DUKE,

Government House, February 7, 1868.

1. I have the honour to transmit, herewith, duplicate copies of the Blue Book of

this Colony for the year 1866.

2. The termination of the Reciprocity Treaty with Great Britain, of which notice was given by the United States in 1865, was anticipated with apprehension in this Colony, and fear was entertained that trade would be seriously affected by a return, on the part of the United States, to its protective policy.

3. Under this treaty there had been, since 1854, reciprocal free trade between the United States and this Island in agricultural produce, fish, and several other articles. On its termination in March 1866, the United States placed upon these commodities duties, which from the following table appear, as regards the principal agricultural produce, to

have proved practically prohibitory.

Frincipal of Expor United	t to th	he		Quantity exported to United States, 1865.	Duty imposed by Unite States Tariff, 1866.	a	Quantity exported to United States, 1866.
			y,	Bushels.			Bushels.
Oats -	-	-	under Treaty,	705,510	10 cents per bushel -	-	Nil.
Barley -	-	-	n L	42,415	15 cents ,, -	-	Nil.
Potatoes	-	-		114,277 lbs.	25 cents ,, -	-	75 lbs.
Butter -	-	-	Free of duty Reciprocity 1854-1866.	20,960 Barrels.	4 cents per lb	-	730 Barrels.
Eggs -	-		96ci	1,550	10 per cent. ad valorem	-	907
Mackerel	-	-	Free Rec 185	16,530	\$2 per barrel		13,488

The value of the total exports to that country fell from 120,928l in 1865 to 21,633l. in 1866.

4. Owing to the high prices for grain in other markets the Island farmer has not felt any loss from being deprived of this additional one. Oats, the staple produce of the Colony, and formerly the principal export to the United States, have commanded higher prices in the market here since the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty than they did during its continuance, and I believe that every bushel that could be spared from the requirements of the Colony was exported in 1866.

5. It would, therefore, appear that the policy of the United States in this matter has merely had the effect of diverting that portion of the surplus of the agricultural produce of this Island, which would otherwise have found its way into their markets, into others

equally remunerative.

6. The exportation of oats to the United Kingdom for the year is about double that of the preceding one. The apparent disadvantages under which the markets of Great Britain lie, owing to their geographical position and greater distance as compared with those of the United States from the Island ports, are counterbalanced by the circumstance that in this Island ship building is carried on exclusively, I may say, for the British market. New ships formerly had to go to New Brunswick for a cargo of timber; since the increase of the trade in produce with Great Britain they usually carry a more remunerative cargo of oats, with a deck-load of timber.

7. It may not be out of place here to remark that, since the date of these returns, an additional market has been opened for the oats of this colony, and that during the past year an exportation of that commodity to France has commenced, which, from present

appearances, is likely to increase during the ensuing season.

8. With the Reciprocity Treaty terminated the right of United States vessels to fish within the limits of the fisheries round the coasts of this Island, to which British subjects have an exclusive right. A temporary arrangement was, however, made in concert with the other British North American Colonies to issue fishery licences for the season of 1866 to United States vessels on payment of a fee which was little more than a nominal one, viz., two shillings a ton. These licences were mutually recognized, and gave the right to fish in the waters of the other British North American Colonies, as well as in those of the Colony by which the licence was issued. 5651. was received for licences issued in this Island during the season of 1866.

9. It is considered that the Colony does not receive an equivalent for the valuable privileges which these licences confer, and the arrangement is in consequence regarded with dissatisfaction on the part of the colonists. I am, I believe, considerably within the mark when I say that 200,000 barrels of mackerel were taken to the United States market from the fisheries round this Island by United States fishermen in 1866, and I understand that the greater part of this fish, and the finest class of it, is caught in the waters open to

foreigners under these licences.

10. Their vessels are on an average about 60 tons; an average catch is, I understand, about 10 barrels a ton. The value of mackerel varies considerably, but taking at a low computation the value of a barrel to be \$10, the value of the fish caught by one of these vessels in a season is \$6,000, on which \$30, the colonial licence fee, at two shillings a ton,

is a very trifling amount.

11. The United States market is the only one, at present, for the finest and most valuable class of mackerel, and on that fish caught by foreigners the United States tariff imposed a duty of \$2 a barrel. Had the fishing trade been extensively pursued by the colonists this tax would probably have had a serious effect, but the Island population engaged in the fisheries is small. Nor can there be much doubt, that, notwithstanding all the precautions the custom house may take, United States fishermen do purchase fish from the colonial boats to fill up their cargoes, and that in this way a portion of the fish caught by Island fishermen must find its way into the United States ports duty free, as caught by their own citizens.

Revenue and Expenditure.

12. The total revenue fixed and incidental was 63,628/.; of this, however, 6,857/. is the surplus from sales of lands, after paying the expenses of the Land Office, and making allowance for the loss of land tax, and 1,702/. was received on account of the sale of the old military barracks. After the deduction of these incidental items, the revenue proper was 55,068/. Of this revenue 43,490/. was derived from import duties; 23,880/. on importations from the United Kingdom, 11,425/. on those from the other British North American provinces, and 4,949/. on those from the United States.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. 13. The total expenditure appears as 102,888l., but of this 54,923l. was expended on the purchase of estates of non-resident proprietors. The expenditure proper was, therefore, 47,932l. There was, therefore, a surplus of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure of about 7,000l.; the public debt was thus, notwithstanding the large outlay for proprietary estates, only increased by 39,268l., i.e., from 49,760l. to 89,028l.

14. To meet this debt of 89,0281. (which is the balance against the Colony after giving credit for cash, and bonds in treasury and in the local banks,) there are 48,3621. due on

account of sales of land, and 244,779 acres of unsold land.

Imports and Exports.

15. The value of imports in these returns is their declared value; the value of exports is computed by the local-custom house according to the prices of the Island market.

The bushel and the gallon throughout are the Winchester measures.

16. It appears that the value of imports for the year was 444,745*l*. as compared with 381,015*l*. in 1865, and that the value of exports (not including 136,292*l*., the estimated value of new ships,) was 246,816*l*. as compared with 291,545*l*. There was, therefore, an increase in the value of imports of 62,930*l*., and a decrease in that of exports of 44,729*l*.

17. The value of imports from the United Kingdom was 219,842l., an increase of 59,711l.

The value of exports thereto 118,608l., an increase of 53,732l.

18. The value of exports to the United States fell from 120,928%. in 1865 to 21,633% in

1866, and of imports from 90,800l. to 74,186l.

19. Imports from Canada were in value 25,253l., an increase of 17,889l.; the increase is in the importation of flour. The exports to Canada were very trifling, viz., 2,133l. in value.

20. The value of imports from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 113,005l., and of exports, 102,000l., show little difference as compared with those of the preceding twelvementh.

Government Savings' Bank.

21. A savings' bank was established by local Statute, 27 Vict. cap 4. This bank, the first of its kind in the Colony, commenced business in June 1864. The balance in this bank due to depositors was on

31st December 1864 - 1,014/.
31st December 1865 - 3,822/.
31st December 1866 - 7,470/.
31st December 1867 - 9,390/.

Interest is allowed at 51. per cent., but no depositor can claim interest on a sum exceeding

66l. 13s. 4d. (100l. currency).

22. At present the only office for deposits is at the treasury in Charlottetown. It is, in my opinion, well worthy of consideration, whether it would not be advantageous to afford the country people greater facilities for availing themselves of this bank by establishing offices, at any rate at one or two of the principal towns.

Legislation.

23. I had great satisfaction in reporting the manner in which the Legislature, during the session of 1866, without a dissentient voice, placed the whole revenue at the disposal of the executive Government for purposes of defence. The Legislature also, in the same session, passed a law which enabled me to call out the militia for training as in the neighbouring provinces.

24. The action of the Legislature enabled me to build drill sheds and to commence the reorganization of the local forces. This work is now proceeding in as satisfactory a manner as the grant, 1,6661, placed in my hands by the Legislature in 1867, allows.

25. Confederation was again discussed in the Legislature, but met with little more favour than in the preceding year. Resolutions against union with the other Colonies were passed unanimously in the Legislative Council, and by a majority of 21 to 7 in the House of Assembly: an address to Her Majesty was also passed praying that Her assent might be withheld from any Act intended to effect an union of Prince Edward Island with Canada and the other British North American Colonies.

Land Purchase.

26. During the year the estates of the late Sir Samuel Cunard in this Island, comprising 212,000 acres, were purchased by the local Government for the sum of 53,000l.,

or five shillings an acre. Half of the purchase-money was to be paid within eighteen months, in four instalments, and the remaining half by debentures redeemable in ten

years, and bearing five per cent. interest.

27. Of the 1,365,400 acres of land in this Island, about 450,000 acres are held by occupiers in fee simple, and 244,779 acres belong to Government. 669,600 acres belong to proprietors, of which 209,702 acres are held by tenants under lease, and 459,898 acres are unsettled.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Education.

28. There is an Act imposing a general assessment on lands to raise funds for the purposes of Education, and in 1866 2,841*l*. was paid into the treasury from that source.

29. 9,618*l.*, or about one-fifth of the ordinary expenditure, comes under this head. Of this, 9,215*l.* was appropriated for salaries of teachers in the common schools. The expenditure under this head, I may add, must be much larger for the year just closed, as the Legislature in 1867 reverted to the system of paying the whole of the teachers' salaries from public funds. In the year of which these are the returns two-thirds only of these salaries were so paid.

30. In 1853 a system of free education, copied in a great measure from that of the New England States, was introduced into this Colony, with, however, this great difference, that in this Island the schools were to be supported chiefly from funds raised by general

taxation, instead of by local assessments.

31. In 1866 there were 331 common schools under the management and control of a

Board of Education, which also examines and gives certificates to teachers.

32. Local trustees for each school district engage the teachers by the year, and have power to assess the parents for repairs and fuel for the school, and for books, &c. There

are also two school visitors, who report to the Board of Education.

33. The whole of the teachers salaries has been paid from the general revenue since 1853, except during the years 1863 to 1867. In 1863 the Legislature, taking into consideration the large proportion of the revenue so appropriated, and also believing that a direct tax on the parents, for the support of their district school, would be beneficial, passed an Act to make the parents in each district contribute about one-third of these salaries. This experiment did not give satisfaction, and it is supposed that in many instances it merely resulted in the diminution by that amount of these salaries. Accordingly, last session, the Legislature reverted to the original system, and the whole of the teachers' salaries is now paid from the general revenue.

34. There is not any legal obligation on parents to have their children educated, and the only penalty for neglect to do so is in case the average attendance falls below that required by law. In such a case, the Government allowance to the teacher is reduced by an amount in the same proportion to the number of scholars short of the required average as the teacher's salary bears to that average, and the parents are required to make

up the deficiency.

35. To meet the difficulty arising from the existence of different religious denominations, the law enacts as follows:—" The introduction of the Bible, to be read in all the public schools of this Island of every grade receiving support from the public treasury, is hereby authorized, and the teachers are hereby required to open the school on each school day with the reading of the sacred Scriptures by those children whose parents or guardians desire it, without comment, explanation, or remark thereupon by the teachers, but no children shall be required to attend during such reading as aforesaid, unless desired by their parents or guardians."

36. I enclose a tabular return, showing the receipts and expenditure on account of these schools for 1866, the average attendance, and the cost of educating each pupil, &c. A glance at this return shows, that the results from this voluntary system of free education, supported as it is chiefly by general taxation, can hardly be deemed satisfactory or

commensurate with the large expenditure from public funds which it absorbs.

Poor Houses-Hospitals.

37. There is not any public provision for a house for the helpless poor of this Colony, nor for an hospital for the indigent sick. The necessity for such institutions is becoming every year more apparent.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Gaols.

38. In 1865 I furnished full replies to the interrogatories forwarded from the Colonial Office respecting the state of the gaols of this Island. These replies have in common with those of the other Colonies been reported on under Your Grace's direction.

39. I regret that I cannot yet report any considerable improvements in these gaols, but the publicity which that report will give to their defective state cannot fail to attract public

attention towards them.

Coal.

40. On March 14, 1866, Mr. Cardwell addressed to me a Circular Despatch respecting coal mines. In reply, I reported that, although from the geological formation it is not improbable that coal does underlie parts of this Island, it is probably at so great a depth as to render its working unremunerative.

41. Although a reward was offered for several years by the Legislature for the

discovery of coal, no attempts have been made to bore for it.

42. Such are the principal points, in connexion with the Blue Book of 1866, on which I have to comment. I have dwelt at some length on the effects of the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, in order to show that that repeal has not perceptibly injured the Island Trade, owing to its having occurred at a time when there was a considerable demand for the principal exports of the Island elsewhere.

43. That that Treaty was, during its continuance, a mutual benefit to the United States and to this Island cannot be doubted, and I am confident that a renewal of

similar provisions would give general satisfaction in this Colony.

I have, &c.

The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE DUNDAS, Lieut.-Governor.

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

	Year.	No. of Population between 5 and 16 years.	No. on Roll of Common Schools.	Average daily Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance to No. on Roll.		Average daily Attendance in each School.	Average on the Roll of each School.	Total yearly cost per pupil on En- rolment.	Total yearly cost per pupil on Attendance
1866		24,500	13,970	8,078	•58	331	24½	42	s. d. 19 9	£ s. d. 1 14 1
	1.12/12				RECEIPT	rs.			ina s	49.37
	Year.	Appropriated General Rev for Board Education School Vision	venue of and	2. ppropriated fr Seneral Rever for Teachers Salaries.	tom Lav	3 n required by 7 to be made by District rds Teachers' Salaries.	Ass	4. ry or Trustee essment for , Fuel, Book &c.		Total.
1866 -		£ s. 6		£ s. d. 9,125 17 3		£ s. d. 041 19 1	at 41.	ns; computa per School. £ 1,324	13,75	
				E	XPENDIT	TURE.				No.
	Year.	Teachers'	Salaries.	For Sites a building Sch Houses	hool Sch	For Repairs o ools, Fuel, Bo Iaps, &c., cale d at 4l. a Sch	ooks, of Ed	ses of Board ucation and ol visitors.	Т	otal.
1866		£ 12,668	s. d. 13 4	No return -		£ 1,324	£ 30		£ 13,79	s. d. 3 3 0

^{*} Except in the years 1863–1867, both 2 and 3, i. e. the whole of the teachers' salaries, were paid from the Public Revenue. No. 3 was an experiment tried from 1863-1867 in order to make parents contribute directly towards the teachers' salaries. In 1867 the Legislature reverted to the system which had prevailed from 1853 to 1863. The whole of these salaries is now paid from Public Revenue.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

New-FOUNDLAND. No. 5.

No. 5.

Cory of a DESPATCH from Governor Musgrave to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 171.) Government House, Newfoundland, My Lord Duke, September 10, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of this Colony for the

year 1866.

2. There were no features in this period demanding special notice. The only event of importance to the community was the successful laying of the Atlantic Telegraph, which, although it was at one time believed by some persons that the work would produce little benefit to Newfoundland herself, has already been found most valuable by the commercial community in its effect upon the conduct of their business.

3. The fisheries were not so productive as in the preceding year, nor was the season so generally favourable for agriculture, while recurrence of the potato blight, from which the Colony had been free for some time, destroyed so large a portion of the staple winter supplies of a great number of the people that much distress was caused, producing as its consequence heavy drafts on the Revenue for the relief of the

necessitous.

4. The public works or measures of the year presented no striking characteristic. Practically all questions of importance have been held in abeyance during the discussion here and in the neighbouring provinces of the project for their union. It has been felt, if not always acknowledged, that, however this Colony might decide upon the proposal which has been under consideration, the final determination of the question by the sister communities must exercise strong influence on her own affairs, which might render premature any unusual action or legislation.

5. I believe that I am justified in stating that public opinion has been quietly acquiring a much stronger inclination towards union than existed some months ago. The principle involved has almost universally been virtually conceded. It remains to arrive at a concurrence upon the arrangements which would be considered equitable

to Newfoundland on her entry into the Confederation.

6. Meantime I am happy to be able to report that the aspect of her affairs has much brightened since the close of last year. The result of the seal fishery in the spring was in some instances remarkably good, and upon the whole has been very fortunate. The cod fishery taken altogether up to this time has been unusually satisfactory, and in many places better than has been known for the last ten years. The summer has been fine, and although drought has prevailed to some extent, I trust the crops will yet be good.

It is gratifying to add that there has been no appearance of the potato disease.

7. But in any report upon the present condition and future prospects of the Colony, I should not omit to notice a new element, which promises to exercise important influence on its welfare, in the development of the mineral resources of the country, which there is reason to believe are great. In the past year the exportation of copper ore of a very superior quality was commenced, and at this time more than 2,000 tons have been shipped. On my recent visit to Labrador and parts of the north-east coast of Newfonndland, I stopped at Tilt Cove in Notre Dame Bay, for the purpose of seeing a mine, which is now in most successful operation, and which I trust is only the first of many which will soon be worked with profit to the proprietors and great advantage to the population, in affording new employment which is often so sorely needed in the winter season. I was much interested in what I witnessed. The quality of ore is said to be equal to the best known from any other place. The fine kinds are worth as much as 201. per ton, and the average value of the sales of shipments to England is equal to about 101. per ton. Before the end of this year it is expected that a quantity worth from 80,0001. to 100,0001. will be shipped, and the ore now being extracted is even better than that first obtained. One hundred and seventy men and boys are on the time list, and about 500 people altogether now reside at the settlement, which was not in existence three years ago. Some of the men make as much as 171. per month, the average being from 101. to 121. Seventeen of the men employed, including the captain of the mine, are Cornish miners, but the remainder are Newfoundlanders. I spoke to several and found them well pleased with their position and circumstances, which are

indeed greatly preferable to those in which they had frequently been placed in seasons FOUNDLAND. when the fishery had been unsuccessful, and their subsistence depended wholly on its result. If, as I believe will be the case in a very short time, many other mines equally productive should be worked, it will scarcely be possible to over value the beneficial effect of this new industry upon the circumstances of the labouring population.

8. In all respects, therefore, I trust that the outlooks of the Colony for the future

are more cheering than they have been for some years past.

I have, &c. (Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Fred. Chapman, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 22.) MY LORD DUKE, Government House, Bermuda,

May 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of the annual Blue Book, together with a Report upon it, written at my request, by Mr. Miles Gerald Keon, the Colonial Secretary, as I myself have not yet been long enough in the Colony to offer any remarks of my own.

I have, &c.

FRED. CHAPMAN. (Signed)

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c.

> Bermuda, Colonial Secretary's Office, May 3, 1867.

SIR.

I HAVE the honour to send to your Excellency for transmission to England one of the duplicate copies of the Blue Book which are required for the Colonial Office, and at the same time, in obedience to your request, I submit a Report on the subject.

2. Revenue and Expenditure.

Your Excellency will observe that the Revenue of last year exceeds that of the previous year by more than 2,000l., while the expenditure is nearly 11,000l. less than the expenditure of the year in question. These are great differences for so small a Colony, and bear a large proportion to the total sums that can be raised, or are ordinarily expended here. The cause belongs to some exceptional occurrences of a few years ago. During the civil war in the United States many strangers visited Bermuda and made it their residence for purposes of their own. The habits of this new class of residents were expensive, and a great increase of taxable imports was the consequence.

Another cause producing similar effects was a sense of insecurity among several inhabitants of these islands concerning their investments; they feared, during the troubles of America, that the interest of their capital and the capital itself would be lost, and therefore drew out the interest, and in some cases the principal money also,

in the shape of goods for consumption or re-sale in these islands.

The Revenue being thus stimulated by artificial and essentially transient causes was, on the other hand, treated by the Legislature as if the temporary increase of the public wealth had grown from natural, normal, and permanent sources; and accordingly the expenditure soon became greater still. In 1864 the Revenue (from all sources) exceeded 30,000*l*.; and for that year the Legislature, which had not yet fully ascertained the extent of the public income accruing from a moderate tax, kept well within its means, spending little more than 27,000*l*. But next year, in 1865, having seen what 1864 had produced, the Legislature, which had 6,000*l*. less at its disposal than it had in the more opulent twelvemonth, as the subsequent returns proved, voted away upwards of The Expenditure was 35,000l. and the Revenue 24,000l. in the year 1865. This great discrepancy necessitated a loan, and also an increase of the import rate,

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which is now five per cent. From 35,000l. in 1865 the expenditure has sunk to 25,000l. in 1866; while the 24,000l. income of the former year has risen to the 26,000l. of last year; but this has been under a tax more than twice as heavy, and therefore not in reality one half so productive.

Everybody acquainted with Bermuda now feels and acknowledges that the fictitious prosperity of the time I have alluded to was a great calamity, one of the least evil results of which was an increase of the permanent burdens devolved upon the Colony on account of its apparent and temporary riches.

3. Public Works.

The public highways and buildings have been kept in pretty good order, at a cost of 9851. for the former, and 3881. for the latter.

The sum of 6,000l. voted in a former year for a second and smaller lighthouse (at Saint David's Head) to give cross-bearings, and for a better gaol at Hamilton, is yet

unexpended, neither of the intended works having been commenced.

The Imperial Government, at its own expense, has completed an electric telegraph between the eastern point of the islands at Saint George and the Governor's residence at Mount Langton, near the centre of them. The line is now being prolonged to Spanish Point, the Admiral's house, from which to the dockyard, westward, there are two miles and a quarter of sea. This is a military telegraph, but the people have the

The Colony voted 250l. in 1864, for a branch about half a mile long by the straight line from Mount Langton to the Town of Hamilton; and undertook to pay thenceforward an annual sum not exceeding 50l. to keep this branch in repair.

4. Legislation.

The most remarkable laws passed last year by the Colony were the new salary Acts for the Chief Justice, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney General. The English Government having called upon Bermuda to take over these officers for the future upon its own establishment, the Colony undertook, as an exchange for the vested life-interest which they had in their salaries, to pay certain annual sums smaller than the salaries in the case of two of those officers, and for ten years only, with nothing in lieu of the former annual accumulation in one of the cases towards an eventual retiring allowance, and with no provision for the continuance of the service-incomes beyond the 10 years at the same amount, or indeed at all. As this little Colony professes not to give pensions to its higher officers, never having established any fund out of which to provide such burdens, a stranger whom it has been called upon to pay might, if the transaction were left upon its present footing, find, when he was worn out, that there were no resources anywhere available from which to afford him a retirement. Eventual destitution would in this case unavoidably close his years of service, and be both the end and the result of his public labours. Not long since, the Bermuda Legislature suddenly lowered the salary of the police magistrate at Hamilton, although the cost of living had increased. The Secretary of State for the Colonies remonstrated in very strong and emphatic terms against the gross injustice of taking from a public servant the means upon which he had been warranted in calculating, and upon which he had contracted engagements, and arranged his expenditure.

That this oppressive injustice should be successfully persevered in, notwithstanding,

is not a tranquillizing circumstance for other public servants.

5. Education.

Less and less has been done for education during the last few years. At this moment there is no Education Act whatever in force.

6. Imports and Exports.

For the last three years the imports of Bermuda have steadily declined. In 1864 they were 370,400l.; in 1865, 200,700l.; in 1866, 192,122l.

I have, &c. MILES GERALD KEON. (Signed)

Colonial Secretary.

&c. &c.

His Excellency Governor Sir F. E. Chapman, K.C.B.,

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 7.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor SEYMOUR to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 154.)

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Mainland portion of the Colony for the year 1866.

New Westminster, November 30, 1867.

Rew Westminster, November 30, 1867.

2. I passed nearly the whole of that period in England. The Colonial Secretary is absent on leave, and so I have called on Mr. Charles Good, the Assistant Colonial

Secretary, for a report on the volume I now transmit.

3. I had intended to report on the Blue Book myself, but I found the summer months so fully occupied that I was glad to devolve on others all that could be entrusted to them. I had to take over the affairs of Vancouver Island at a time of particular difficulty, and to make myself acquainted with this addition to British Columbia. Then political changes rendered my presence in the far North desirable. I had but just returned at the end of June from the then nightless regions of our extreme boundary and the magnificent scenery of Queen Charlotte's Island, when I received a telegram from Cariboo stating that the law was utterly powerless at the mines against some five or six hundred men banded together. I proceeded to the spot and have already reported that tranquillity has been restored, but the having to travel about 3,000 miles during the summer months in addition to the usual work, has occupied a considerable portion of my time.

4. I will only now state that I found, on my way to the mines, the farms in the upper country greatly improved. Barkerville, the central town of Cariboo, has acquired a look

of solidity and permanency which it had not before.

5. The roads are in excellent order and we drove six in hand from Yale, the head of navigation on the Fraser, into Cariboo, about 400 miles. The journey is full of variety. From Yale to Lytton, for 56 miles, one passes through the fearful gorges, or "cañons," of the Fraser, where it rushes between the perpendicular sides of the Cascade Mountains. The road is sometimes cut through the solid and over-arching rock, at others, built up by scaffolding against a mountain side, hanging some 600 or 700 feet sheer over the river. From Lytton the road follows the less terrible "cañons" of the Thompson for some 35 miles and then rises to the high country of vast prairies, plains, and cornfields. The roadside inns, mostly kept by Frenchmen and Italians, furnish comfortable accommodation and excellent food. The prices are all greatly reduced, and I had no longer, as on my first visit to the mines, to pay 30l. a night for the feed of my horses. We posted through in excellent time. The leaders were generally in a hand gallop. The second pair, or "swing horses," were left pretty nearly to choose their own paces, but the wheelers were steady and the break was cleverly worked by the driver with his right foot.

I have, &c. (Signed) FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Sir, Colonial Secretary's Office, November 28, 1867.

In handing your Excellency the Blue Book for 1866 at this late period I would remark that the increased work in the Colonial Secretary's Office consequent on the union of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and the difficulty of obtaining some of the necessary returns in consequence of changes in several offices, have been the causes of the unusual delay.

The fact of the union of the Colonies having been anticipated during the whole of the year 1866, and finally carried out in November of that year, had a marked effect on the

general state of the Colony, and produced an amount of uncertainty resulting in a condition of affairs so unsettled as to render it a difficult task to make any positive statements in regard to the condition and prospects of the revenue, the development of our resources, the progress of immigration, or any of the main topics on which it would be

desirable more especially to enlarge.

The Blue Book for 1867 will embrace returns from the whole United Colony, and in reporting thereon it will be possible to make a much more satisfactory statement of the condition of the Colony than can be done in the present unsettled state of affairs. There are, however, several points to which I shall endeavour to draw your Excellency's attention as satisfactory proofs of permanent improvement.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue of 1866 amounted to 86,000l., showing a decrease of about 25,000l. as compared with that of 1865. This decrease was entirely under the head of Customs, and it is to be accounted for as follows: - The gold export tax, included under the head of Customs receipts, was repealed early in the year, and a loss of 10,428l. was thereby sustained, the tax in question having realized that amount in 1865. But the greater part of this decrease was caused by a system of reckless trading introduced in 1865, which resulted in the country being flooded with goods that had to be sold under their original cost in Victoria. There would appear, in fact, to have been no actual diminution of the consumption during 1866, but simply that an undue proportion was imported in 1865, thereby rendering it unnecessary, and in fact impossible with any chance of realizing a profit, to import the usual stock in 1866. The system of buying goods in Victoria on credit, and then hypothecating them to the banks for the amount necessary to cover the customs dues leviable at New Westminster and the freight charges to the mines, was followed by the most disastrous results. Most of these goods were sold on their arrival in the mining regions for any sum that would cover the amount advanced on them, the country was swamped with unsaleable stocks, and almost every firm in the Colony was involved in bankruptcy, a state of affairs which could not fail immediately to affect the Victoria merchant. Hence the commercial depression throughout the two Colonies, which has been variously charged to the imposition of the gold export tax, hostile administration, and to any other cause which the fertile imagination of political opposition could invent other than the true one. From the effect of this state of things the revenue only began to recover at the close of 1866.

It is gratifying, however, to notice that the number of free miners' certificates issued in 1866 exceeded that of 1865 by 1,200, while the general mining receipts were not

diminished and gave a return of 4,000/.

The amount of revenue realized from trading and other licences was increased in 1866 by some 500l., the rates having been slightly raised by an ordinance of that year. A small reduction took place in the road tolls, but the total sum collected under this head, viz., 16,000l., was highly satisfactory when the reduction in the stocks of goods imported is taken into consideration; these tolls being entirely dependent on the foreign imports passing over the roads in transit to the mines.

The expenditure of the year 1866 was in round numbers 91,000l., and was less by 46,000l. than that incurred in 1865. Considerable retrenchment was effected by the reduction of salaries and abolition of certain offices. The amount of public works undertaken was far less than that of the previous year. I propose alluding to this in greater

detail under the head of Works and Buildings.

The amount of crime was very inconsiderable during 1866, and a consequent reduction in the expense of bringing prisoners to justice was thus effected, a saving of 1,000% being made in this item alone as against 1865.

The improved state of the public roads rendered the transport of officers on duty much

less expensive, and under this head a saving of 1,200l. was effected.

The only material increase on any item of expenditure, as compared with the year 1865, was under the head of interest (amounting to an excess of nearly 7,000%) on temporary loans rendered imperative to meet the actual requirements of the Government during the year.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony amounted at the close of the year to about 295,000l., at the commencement of the year that debt amounted to 239,000l. In consequence of the falling state of the revenue no important reductions in this debt were practicable in 1866, beyond the ordinary ones for sinking funds of public loans. The union of Van-20044.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

couver Island to the mainland largely increased our public debt in 1866 by the addition of the 40,000l. Vancouver Island loan, and a temporary ioan effected by Governor Kennedy of some 16,000l. in 1865-6. No additional revenue, however, has at present accrued to this Government from union, in reality the fact of Victoria having been at the time of union overstocked with goods of every description, and of those goods having been and still being admitted into the mainland free of all duty, has entailed and will entail a very considerable loss of revenue, certainly not less than 20,000l., in 1867, while the revenue collected in Victoria prior to union, in the shape of the real estate tax, ceased shortly after union; so that in point of fact the inhabitants of Vancouver Island will for some time contribute but a fractional portion of the revenue, while the heavy interest on their loans has been shifted to the general revenue. Our present financial condition is therefore worse than it would have been had union not taken place; our liabilities would have been less by the amount of loans taken over, while our revenue would have been greater by the receipts of customs duties on goods imported free of duty since union.

The overdrawn account with the Bank of British Columbia was less by 10,000l. at the end of the year than at the beginning, and only 8,000l. was raised from other quarters during the year as a temporary loan, while about 2,000l. of roads bonds issued in 1863 were redeemed in the latter portion of the year 1866. It is the difficulty of meeting the large amounts required to be regularly remitted to England on account of interest and sinking funds that causes the present financial embarrassment. Were the Colony free to spend within her own limits her actual revenue, viz., some 100,000l. per annum, we should be in an absolutely prosperous condition so far as regards our revenue and expenditure, but when so large a sum as 25,000l. has to be remitted every year, it becomes a serious consideration, more especially having in view the present loss resulting from union, and the expenditure incurred in compensation for loss of office, passages to England, &c. &c.

Public Works.

The expenditure under this head in 1866 amounted to 25,000l., and was less by 40,000l. than in the previous year. The most important work undertaken during the year was the completion of the grand trunk waggon road from Yale (the head of navigation on the Fraser river) to the centre of the mining district of Cariboo by the construction of the unfinished portion of the road from Quesnel to Alexandria, and from Cottonwood to Barkerville, thus making a total length of 375 miles of excellent waggon road through a country full of engineering difficulties, a result of which this young Colony may be justly proud.

A less costly but not unimportant work was the opening up of a route to the newly discovered diggings on the Columbia river, thus clearing the way for the miner and trader to a fresh gold field, which promises to be highly remunerative, and which, in the

opinion of some, may at no distant period rival Cariboo.

The remainder of the expenditure under the head of works was mainly incurred in keeping existing roads in repair, a service which entails a yearly cost of over 7,000l.

Legislation.

The legislation of 1866 comprised chiefly such laws as were absolutely necessary for the current and ordinary requirements of the community, and were mostly of a commonplace order. The fact of the close proximity of union rendered the Council unwilling to enter very fully into any important measures which might not be suitable to the new order of things, and which would probably have to be repealed or recast in the ensuing session.

Population.

The extensive frontier and seaboard of the Colony, chiefly unsettled, but at the same time to immigration or emigration unobserved, and the migratory and unsettled habits of the mining population, render it a matter of peculiar difficulty to state with any degree of accuracy the exact population of the Colony. The district returns, comprising as they do only what comes under the immediate observation of the magistrate, are obviously far under the mark. It would be a fair computation, however, to state the white population of the mainland in 1866 at 6,000 souls. One thing, however, is certain, that is, that the settled population of the Colony was largely added to in 1866. Agriculture and stock raising made rapid progress in that year, as I shall endeavour to point out presently. The era of resident farming population dates from 1866, from which fact the most beneficial results may be anticipated.

The Native population forms no inconsiderable feature in this return. They must amount at the lowest computation to 40,000 souls, all of whom are more or less producers and consumers. They are engaged in the sale of skins, furs, cranberries, and other commodities, by which foreign capital is introduced into the Colony; and they consume the same kind of food and use the same sort of clothing as the whites, which makes them regular contributors to the revenue. The large customs revenue of the Colony when compared with the white population is thus readily accounted for, since the Natives contribute at least one-third of the receipts under that head.

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Agriculture.

But the most important advance yet made in the progress of the Colony has been the rapid development of agriculture, the growth of cereals, and the manufacture of flour from home grown wheat. In early days the Colony was unfortunately described as a barren wilderness, whose only resource was the gold hidden in its inaccessible mountains; it was boldly asserted that it could never become an agricultural country, and that it would for all time have to import its breadstuffs from abroad. It was only during the year 1866 that the ill effects of this belief were finally overcome and the agricultural capabilities of the Colony conclusively established. The facilities for travel afforded by the completion of the waggon roads and other communications have tended gradually to remedy the evil. Settlers have taken up farms throughout the whole course of the roads; large tracts of land have been cultivated and sown with wheat and other cereals with most satisfactory results. Steam and water power grist mills, according to the exigencies of particular districts, have sprung into existence; and home manufactured flour of a superior quality is already taking the place of the imported article, to the permanent advantage of the Colony. Stock raising has also been taken up with vigour and with most encouraging results to those who have embarked in the enterprise.

Lumber and Spars.

A noticeable feature in the development of the resources of the Colony is the impetus lately given to the export of spars and lumber. The coast of British Columbia is studded throughout its length with numerous deep landlocked harbours and inlets, whose sides are densely covered with magnificent timber trees. Until 1866 no effort had been made to create an export of lumber, but it is gratifying to note that in that year two large sawmills were completed in Burrard's Inlet, the most southerly of the coast inlets, and the export of spars and lumber manufactured from the Douglas fir commenced in good earnest. Of the superior quality of the spars and lumber produced in this Colony there is no question, and a confident hope is entertained that an important and thriving trade in spars and lumber is about to be established. The value of exports under this head in 1866 amounted to 10,000l.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1866 amounted to 298,000l. in round numbers, being less than the imports of 1865 by 179,000l. This large decrease resulted, as I have endeavoured to show under the head of Revenue and Expenditure, from the overstock imported in 1865. In illustration of my remarks on the importance of the growth of agricultural industry to the Colony, I would point out that in 1866 the following staples were imported into the mainland alone at a total value of over 100,000l.:—

Flour

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This Colony is capable of producing or raising the whole of the above without the slightest difficulty, and their value could be thus saved to the Colony. The protection afforded to the farmer by the import duties and cost of freight to the interior amounts to at least 20 per cent.; a ready market at most remunerative prices is always at hand. This condition of affairs offers inducements to a farming population that will certainly be taken advantage of ere long.

The value of exports in 1866 amounted to 43,000l. as against 33,000l. for 1865, showing an increase in 1866 of 10,000l. The principal articles of export are at present furs and lumber; the value of the former was 28,000l., and the latter 10,000l. An increase of 13,000l. in the value of furs exported in 1866 as against 1865 is to be noted as satisfactory. A large export trade in cranberries has also arisen, but the crop failed in

1866; the exports in 1867 under this head will be considerable.

Prisons and Crime.

The management of the prison at New Westminster is very satisfactory, every attention being given to the health of the prisoners and to the cleanliness of the building. The chain gang is constantly employed out of doors on public works and in cutting firewood for the use of the public offices. The absence of any great amount of crime in so extensive a colony as this, with a widely scattered population and police stations far apart, is most satisfactory. During the year 1866 there was only one case of murder, six of felony, and two or three other offences. This state of affairs is more gratifying when compared with the outrages of daily occurrence in the adjacent American territories.

Hospitals.

Two hospitals, one at Cariboo, the other at New Westminster, sustained partly by Government grant and partly by public donations, were in full operation in 1866. Over 100 patients were relieved, many of them suffering from severe and complicated injuries. These institutions are maintained in a state of considerable efficiency, and are of great importance to the Colony.

Mines and Minerals.

It is almost impossible in the scope of a report of this nature to give even in outline

anything like an account of the mining operations of last year.

The total yield of gold during the year has been roughly estimated at 600,000l. This perhaps is less than the produce of some previous years; but considering the number of miners engaged, certainly not over 3,000, the average earning of 200l. per man a year is satisfactory, and far exceeds any average ever reached either in California or Australia. Prospecting was vigorously carried on, and many new creeks and diggings were opened up. Great hopes are entertained as to the prospects of silver mining in this Colony. During 1866 a fair amount of prospecting was done in the Shushwap district, and specimens obtained from the Cherry Creek mines assayed as much as 1,300 oz. of silver to the ton. Up to the close of the year, however, a sufficient capital to thoroughly develop this branch of mining was not attainable, though the utmost confidence is expressed by those engaged as to their probable success.

Education.

Everything has been done that could reasonably be expected in aid of education. Wherever a school has been established the Government has contributed to the support of the teacher by giving 4s. a head a month for each child regularly attending. There are two schools thus assisted at New Westminster, one at Yale, and one at Langley The system is non-sectarian, and the colonists are satisfied with the aid afforded by Government. There are three private schools at New Westminster, two under the charge of the Roman Catholics, and one under the Church of England.

General Observations.

In reviewing the circumstances of the Colony at the end of the year 1866 as evidenced

by the present returns, there appears to be much reason for satisfaction.

Temporary financial difficulties would seem to be the chief evil against which the Colony has to make headway, and even this evil does not appear to be without a remedy, since the economy and reduction which have been vigorously begun, and which the Government is determined to carry out, will no doubt in course of time result in a solution of the difficulty, though not without injuring the status of the Colony. It is present

pressing want by which the Government continues to be embarrassed, and if Her Majesty's Government could only be induced to place at your Excellency's disposal a sum of 50,000*l*., to be repaid as circumstances would permit without interest, the return of the Colony to a state of financial prosperity would be immediate and lasting.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The despondency among the mercantile community induced by the numerous failures in 1866 had already begun to disappear at the close of the year. Trade was being carried on on a firmer basis, and the reckless system of general credit to unsound men had ceased.

Mining operations were carried on throughout the year with a fair amount of success and in a very hopeful spirit. The belief in the mineral wealth of the Colony was placed on a much firmer footing. The indifference induced by general depression was gradually fading away, and a more hopeful and contented spirit being engendered.

Great strides were made in agriculture and stock raising, thereby commencing the era

of a settled population, hitherto the great want of the Colony.

There is little doubt that with ordinary care and application on the part of the colonists the resources of this vast and peculiarly healthy country could be developed twenty-fold; and if faith in the Colony could be restored, there seems to be no doubt as to the result. It only remains to accept the progressive steps made during the year 1866 as evidences of restored confidence and coming prosperity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES GOOD,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Frederick Seymour. &c. &c. &e.

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AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 8.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor BLACKALL to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 59.) MY LORD DUKE, Government House, Sierra Leone,

June 5, 1867.

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace, in duplicate, the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1866.

2. The several returns will evidence the progressive improvement of the Colony, whilst I am happy to be able to state that the lately annexed dependencies of Sherboro' and Bulama are adding considerably to the Revenue, beyond their own expenditure.

3. Peace prevails both in the Colony itself and in the surrounding countries; and

I have every reason to believe that British influence is gradually extending; and the Chiefs are becoming more and more aware of the importance to them of increased intercourse and commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c.

SAM. W. BLACKALL.

Governor-in-Chief.

GAMBIA. No. 9.

GAMBIA.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Administrator of the Government to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 32.) My LORD DUKE,

(No. 18.)

Government House, Sierra Leone,

August 12, 1867.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book, in duplicate, for the settlements on the Gambia for the year 1866, with the Acting Administrator's report

2. I am happy to be able to report to your Grace the pleasing aspect the affairs of the Gambia have assumed; the Revenue is decidedly on the increase; trade and commerce have been prosperous, in defiance of the raids of the Mahommedan Chief Maba, who, as it is rumoured, is now dead; and the Government is on friendly terms with native Chiefs.

I have, &c.

G. N. YONGE. (Signed) Administrator-in-Chief.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

> Government House, Bathurst, Gambia, August 1, 1867.

SIR. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Despatch, No. 37, dated July 11, 1867, and with reference to paragraph two, I have caused a copy of the Blue Book for the Gambia to be made. A second copy for your Excellency I will have prepared and forward by the next mail; my predecessor, Admiral Patey, during whose term of office it was made up, did not make any report thereon. I have however, compared the Blue Books for 1865 and 1866, and from the information I am able to derive from them have drawn up the following brief report, as I was most anxious to transmit it by this packet, believing that you urgently required it for transmission without further delay to the Colonial Office.

Report.

GAMBIA.

Comparative Statement of the value of imports and exports for the years 1865 and 1866:—

	Imports,	1866.				
				£	S.	d.
		3 - 1	-	64,824	18	7
-		-	-	8,623	15	4
S	-		-	401	5	()
	-	-		18,383	19	0
-	-		-	9,525	7	4
-	•			6,430	6	0
-			-	108,189	11	3
-			-			2
	s			s	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	£ s. 64,824 18 8,623 15 401 5

Showing a decrease in 1866 of 20,064l. 9s. 11d. compared with the year 1865, as per Colonel d'Arcy's report.

	E	Exports,	1866.				
					£	s.	d.
Great Britain	-	-		-	19,200	13	6
Leeward Coast	-	-		-	4,297	12	8
British West Indi	es	-	-	-	1,228	0	0
British North An	nerica	-		-	1,584	4	()
France -	-			-	112,619	6	9
Windward Coast	-		-	-	3,995	2	6
United States	-	-			15,445	4	6
1866					158,370	3	11
1865			1. A		133,818	8	4
				£	24,551	15	7
					Manager Manager Policy C	Lin barrach	STATE OF THE PERSON

Showing an increase of 24,551l. 15s. 7d. which is accounted for by the harvest of ground nuts being still more bountiful than the preceding year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	\mathfrak{L} s. d.	\pounds s. d.
1866	- 15,781 14 9	13,970 17 8
1865	- 10,585 11 9	12,978 5 9
	£ 5,196 3 0	£ 992 11 11

Exclusive of the Parliamentary Grant for 1865 of 4,173l. 3s. 8d., and for 1866 of 3,298l. 7s. 4d.; shows an increase in the Revenue of 1866, amounting to 5,196l. 3s. 0d.; and an increase in the expenditure of 992l. 11s. 11d. The financial state of the Colony may, therefore, be considered as improving, and the prospects of another plentiful harvest will, no doubt, add to its further increase.

Trade.

Trade and commerce have been prosperous, notwithstanding the continuous petty wars amongst the native tribes in the river. The marauding excursions or the Priest and Warrior Chief Maba are most detrimental to the cultivators of the land. His followers principally live on plunder, affecting to despise the agricultural pursuits. Could an effectual check be made on him, much good would ensue to the Colony.

Education.

Wesleyans and Roman Catholics have scholastic establishments; no provisions are made for the education of children of the Established Church with the exception of the garrison school, to which children of civilians are admitted free of charge and encouraged to attend, but the parents avail themselves in very small numbers of the advantages held out to them.

20044.

GAMBIA.

Crime.

The prevailing crime is larceny, but most daring burglaries and thefts are committed with great adroitness, which, owing to the small numbers of the police, and on that account their inability to sufficiently protect property, are not easily detected or prevented.

It is difficult to obtain an efficient police force, scarcely any but old soldiers offering

for its ranks; the natives being averse to discipline.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Colonel G. N. Yonge, Administrator-in-Chief,

(Signed)

HENRY ANTON,

&c. &c. &c.

Acting Administrator.

GOLD COAST.

No. 10.

GOLD COAST.

No. 10.

Not received.

LAGOS.

No. 11.

LAGOS.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor BLACKALL to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 22.) My LORD DUKE, Government House, Sierra Leone, June 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Grace the Blue Book (in duplicate) for Lagos, with the Administrator's report thereon marked "Separate."

The Revenue of this Settlement appears to be in a satisfactory condition, and the reason assigned, viz., the continuance of peace in all the surrounding countries, is still more encouraging as to the future of Lagos.

(Signed) His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. SAM. W. BLACKALL, Governor-in-Chief.

(Separate.)

Government House, Lagos, June 4, 1867.

SIR, 1. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency, in duplicate, the Blue Book for this Settlement for the year 1866.

2. The returns of Revenue show an increase for 1866 over that of the previous year, resulting from peace being maintained by the tribes in the interior and a consequent increase in the trade of the Settlement.

I have, &c. JOHN H. GLOVER, (Signed) Administrator. His Excellency Colonel Blackall, Governor-in-Chief,

&c. &c. &c.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir P. E. Wodehouse, K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government House, Cape Town, (No. 117.) My LORD DUKE, November 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your Grace's consideration the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866; and should have been glad if it had been in my power to make a more favourable comparison of the transactions of the year with those of 1865,

than I now feel justified in submitting to you.

Indeed, it may be truly said, that the agricultural and commercial depression from which we had been so long suffering, continued without improvement during the whole year, while the seasons, on which this Colony is so terribly dependent, were still very unfavourable. Under these circumstances the revenue, although very slightly larger than that of 1865, fell far short of the Expenditure; and the Government was again driven to borrow money for the purpose of meeting its current expenses. Public works were almost entirely stopped; and the consequent want of employment, added to scarcity of food, led to a great increase of crime in the rural districts, and filled the gaols with

prisoners convicted of cattle and sheep stealing.

The Session of Parliament was in this year unusually late, owing to its having been delayed until all the elections arising out of the annexation of British Kaffraria to the Cape in the month of April, had been completed. When the two Houses met, their attention was almost exclusively devoted to the state of the finances, and to the necessity for restoring the equilibrium between the revenue and expenditure. In the House of Assembly, a Select Committee was appointed, which brought up a report urging very sweeping reductions of the public establishments and institutions; and this report was, before the close of the Session, strongly recommended by both Houses to the consideration of the Government. But, notwithstanding this recommendation, it became abundantly clear that the Houses did not desire these reductions, and that the people of the Colony were determined not to be deprived of the institutions to which they had become accustomed; although they were very reluctant to provide for their maintenance by additional Accordingly, when the subject was revived in the Session of this year, many of the reductions that had been suggested, were peremptorily set aside; and such as were adopted were wholly insufficient to affect in any material degree the balance of the finances.

Still, however, no additional taxation could be attempted. The Legislature contented itself with postponing payment of some of its debts, in an unobjectionable manner, and

trusting to the arrival of better times.

Happily it would appear as if their expectations were likely to be realized. The course of the seasons during the present year has been favourable throughout; the condition of the country from one end to the other is spoken of in the highest terms; and the harvest

now in progress is expected to be most abundant.

Undoubtedly a change in this direction was greatly needed; for the state of poverty and misery into which the lower orders were fast sinking, was becoming the cause of great anxiety. Our excessive dependence on one article of production, wool, is very hazardous; and I am glad to see that attention is more and more given to experiments in the growth of silk and cotton. I am not sanguine as to the profits to be derived from the latter; but it will, indeed, be most fortunate for our Colonists, if they succeed in establishing an important export of silk.

The condition of the Native Tribes, politically speaking, may fairly be said to have been satisfactory during the year. Numerous thefts of stock were undoubtedly committed by them; but I believe these to have been attributable in a very great degree to the prevailing distress, and to have been wholly devoid of any political character. And I am confirmed in this belief by the very rapid decrease of crime that has already resulted from

more favourable seasons.

(Signed)

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos. &c.

I have, &c. P. E. WODEHOUSE. Governor.

NATAL. No. 13.

NATAL.

No. 13.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Keate to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 39.) My Lord Duke,

Government House, Natal, August 22, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book for Natal for 1866. I am informed that its completion has been delayed by its having been found necessary to send back to the magistrates, for correction by the Field Cornets, by whom they had been collected, all the agricultural returns.

2. Having been scarcely three months in the Colony, I am unable to add any report on its condition and prospects. I regret this the more as I find that no such report has accompanied the transmission of this compilation for some years past. I trust to be able to make up for this to some extent by including a review of the history and transactions of those years in the report which it will be my duty to prepare at the proper time in connexion with the next annual Blue Book.

3. I beg leave to call your Grace's attention to the report of the Acting-Superintendent of Education, on the Schools of the Colony for the past year, and more particularly to that of the Colonial Engineer upon the present state of the Natal Harbour Works, copies of which I have annexed.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

I have, &c.
) ROBT. W. KEATE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

nel. 1 in No. 13.

Enclosure 1 in No. 13.

REPORT of the ACTING SUPERINTENDENT of EDUCATION on the SCHOOLS in the COLONY of NATAL for the YEAR 1866.

1. Sixty-seven schools were in operation during the year 1866.

2. Adopting the classification of 1865:-

Class 1.—Schools maintained and managed by Government.

High School, Maritzburg. Government School, Maritzburg. High School, Durban. Government School, Durban.

Class 2 .- District Schools with a grant of 80l. a-year.

Greytown.

Weenen.

Class 3 .- Public Schools with a grant of 70l. a-year.

The Berea. Sydenham.

Verulam.
Pinetown.*

Class 4.—Public Schools with a grant of 50l. a-year.

Wesleyan Infant School, Maritzburg. St. Andrew's Infant School, Maritzburg. Roman Catholic School, Maritzburg. Richmond. Wesleyan Juvenile, Durban.

Wesleyan Infant School, Durban.

Addington.
New Germany.
Isipingo.
Ladysmith.
Victoria.

Class 5 .- Public Schools with a grant of 36l. a-year.

Chapel Street, Maritzburg. Fox Hill.

Lower Umkomanzi. Ifafa.

Malton. New Hanover. Clairmont.

Umhlali. New Guelderland. Mount Moreland.

Class 6.—Public Schools with a grant of 25l. a-year.

Byrnetown.
Westville.
Lower Umzinto.

Sinquasi. Inanda. Nooitgedacht.

^{*} The 30l. additional is for a training school.

Class 7.—Public Schools with a grant of 18l. or 16l. a-year.

Little Umhlanga (1). Little Umhlanga (2.) Illovo. Umtwalume.

Ezinkombine. Little Tugela. Lower Tugela. NATAL.

Class 8 .- Adult Evening Schools with a grant of 201. or 101. a-year.

Kelly's, Maritzburg.

Doig's, Durban.

Angus's, Verulam.

Class 9 .- Itinerant Teachers.

J. C. van der Craght.	P. Corver.
A. Jansen.	E. W. Cyrus.
H. Meerdink.	H. Heath.
F. G. E. Meyer.	F. Walton.
J. H. Sheridan.	J. Vogel.
E. H. Doyle.	K. J. Fischer.
P. Donk.	E. Scott.
J. T. Hut.	Ch. F. Semidt.
J. de Jongh.	G. C. A. van Dam.
A I. Jancon	

3. The number of scholars in attendance during the year 1866 was 1,785; of these, 1,107 were boys The average daily attendance throughout the Colony was 1,339, and the average attendance at each school 20.

4. During the year 1866, the Educational Department has issued 2,650 books, 32 wall maps, 637 copy books, 21 wall tablets (sets). Of these 1,946 books, 637 copy books, 3 wall maps, were sold at cost price; the rest were attached to the schools. The amount returned to the Treasury for the sale of books was 571. 2s. 2d.

5. The amount expended on education during 1866 was:

5. The amount expended on education of	during 1866	was:-				
On the establishment Exclusive of establishments Rents				£ - 1,336 - 2,932 - 226	1	7 2
	Total			- £4,494	16	9
6. The amount received by the Treasur	v on accoun	t of educa	ation wa	G *	OR TOTAL VALUE	PRINCES TO
For school fees - For sale of books -		*	-	- 605 - 57	12 2	6 2
	Total	-	-	- £662	14	8
7. The sums supplied by private person 3,073 <i>l</i> . 14 <i>s</i> . 9 <i>d</i> . Hence:—	s for educat	ion durin	g 1866	were	serial septon	CONTROL OF THE PARTY
Money supplied by Government Money supplied by private				- 4,494 - 3,073		
	Total		-	- £7,568	11	6
is the amount expended in the Colony on	education in	public s	chools d	Juring 1866	ROBERT SHEET	enterent .
8. If from this total		- Pasic s	-	- 7,568	11	6
be subtracted the sum paid into the Treas	ury -	Simon.	•	- 662		
the remainder		-	-	- £6,905	16	10

will fairly represent the cost of public education for 1866.

will fairly represent the cost of public education for 1866.

9. There were 76 teachers employed and 1,785 scholars taught, and the expense was 6,905l. 16s. 10d.; hence the cost of each teacher, on an average, was nearly 91l., and of each scholar, 3l. 17s. 4d.

10. The returns from the public schools for the past year furnish ground for congratulation and for hope, when it is remembered that the Colony has not yet emerged from the late commercial crisis.

11. In 1864, the daily average attendance throughout the Colony was 20.5; in 1865, it was 22.2; in 1866, it was 20.0; on the other hand, the support in money from private sources was 3,090l. in 1864; 3,061l. in 1865; and 3,073l. in 1866. These figures seem to show that the colonists generally are not inclined (whatever else they give up) to give up the education of their children.

12. During the year the High School at Pietermaritzburg was removed to the handsome rooms lately built by the trustees of the collegiate institution, and leased by them to the Government. The gain to the masters and scholars has been great in convenience, air, and general comfort. In the grounds.

the masters and scholars has been great in convenience, air, and general comfort. In the grounds, horizontal, parallel, and leaping bars have been set up in accordance with the taste for athletic exercises

The master, Mr. Calder, is about to return to England, and it will be no easy task to supply his place. Mr. Calder brought with him the skill of an expert in the modern science of teaching. He introduced and maintained in the High School a discipline of which the quiet order and self-respect of the scholars is at once the proof and the reward. His skill in imparting accurate knowledge, and his power of "working up" his pupils are well known, and will be recognized by the pupils themselves only the more fully the older they grow. In selecting a successor to Mr. Calder it is worthy of consideration whether, with a view of maintaining a superior class of education for the children of the colonists within the

NATAL.

Colony itself, the Government would not be justified in proposing an increase of the salary of the Head

13. A High School has been opened at Durban by Mr. Russell, a gentleman whese services were secured to us by the Superintendent of Education. Opened in June, the school numbered 19 in December; and there is but one opinion of the energy, skill, and temper with which Mr. Russell has so well commenced. The Government will shortly have to consider whether the school shall continue at a maximum of 30 scholars, or expand with the demands of the town of Durban for this class of education, in which case provision must be made for additional masters and for suitable buildings.

lucation, in which case provision must be made for additional masters and to state of the Superin-14. During the past year the Government took occasion to act on a suggestion left by the Superin-14. During the past year the Government took occasion to act on a suggestion left by the Superin-the four schools which are under its direct control. This tendent, and to enforce prepayment of fees in the four schools which are under its direct control. was the easier at Durban, as the school was just opened. In the High School at Pietermaritzburg the results of this change are worthy of remark. This school, from the kind of education given, has felt more than others the severity of the times, and has declined from an average of 50 in 1865 to an average of 40 in 1866; nevertheless, the payment in fees has risen from 330l. 8s. in 1865 to 415l. in 1866. The same results are not to be looked for in the two Government schools. In them the Government has always permitted some children to be entered free, preferring to train up a useful citizen at a light cost now rather than to punish a bad citizen at a heavy cost hereafter.

15. From the towns arise demands from time to time for aid to schools, with which demands it is not

possible for the Government, with the means at its disposal, to comply; at the same time it is difficult to see why, within the same town, some schools should be receiving aid, while others, perhaps of equal need and merit, have none. With this exception, the money voted for the purpose of education, added

to private subscriptions, seems still fairly to supply the demand for public education in the Colony.

16. As regards scholarship, the public schools are, generally speaking, in a fair condition. Spelling, reading, writing, a little arithmetic for daily use, a little history, geography, and grammar—these seem to be all the subjects which can be taught in schools which most of the scholars leave by the time they are fourteen years old. Within this range, however, there is room for improvement. For instance, in reading, it is possible to make the scholar mind not only the letters and words of his sentence, but the reading, it is possible to make the scholar mind not only the letters and words of his sentence, but the sense of it too; nor should any child, after a fair time spent at school, be unable to answer ordinary questions about the Colony in which he lives, the name of the nation to which he belongs, the governor of that nation, or her representative in the Colony. But while in some instances there is no doubt room for more intelligence and thought, there are schools among us in which the teacher, while duly maintaining the mere drill and drudgery of learning, has succeeded admirably in making the scholars think and take notice of the facts of daily life about them. The moral tone throughout is healthy. There can be no doubt of the anxiety of all the teachers to do their best; and there exists, almost universally, a good and friendly feeling between them and their scholars. Within the nine months which have passed since the Superintendent left the Colony, there has not been made a single complaint. which have passed since the Superintendent left the Colony, there has not been made a single complaint to the Government against any public teacher, nor within the same time have any serious troubles arisen between the teachers on the one hand and the committees, parents, or scholars on the other.

T. WARWICK BROOKS, Acting Superintendent of Education.

Educational Department, Pietermaritzburg, 16th February 1867.

Encl. 2 in No. 13.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

REPORT ON THE PORT NATAL HARBOUR WORKS, BY THE COLONIAL ENGINEER.

In order to embrace all the subjects referred to in my letter of instructions, and some others which I think it desirable to include, I have divided my report into the following heads, viz.:-

1st. The local peculiarities of the harbour. 2nd. The plan hitherto adopted.

3rd. The action of the teredo, and other causes detrimental to the durability of the work.
4th. The best method of proceeding with the work in future, and the length of time necessary to complete the work so far as to cross the northern channel.

5th. The effects of the works so far as they have gone, and the probable results of carrying out the north pier sufficiently to close up permanently the present northern channel.

6th. The plans suggested for improving the harbour, by works within the bay or inner harbour, and

suggestions for such improvements as may be advantageous.

1st. The local peculiarities of the harbour.

The harbour of Port Natal consists of a large land-locked basin, with a total water area of about 4,000 acres, of which, however, only 80 to 85 acres have sufficient depth to be available as anchorage ground for even small craft, the remainder having only from one to three feet or thereabouts of water at

high tide, and the greater part being entirely bare at low water.

By reference to the plan of the harbour appended hereto, it will be seen that the deep water lies along the northern side of the bluff, called the Bluff Channel, and from the entrance along the inner side of the sand-spit as far as the railway wharf, or rather above it, which latter channel is called the Custom House Channel.

The outlet of this inner harbour or basin lying between the point of the sand-spit and the bluff, is about 367 yards across, and has a sectional area of between 1,800 and 1,900 square yards at high water springs, the rise and fall of tide at spring being about six feet.

About 1,000 yards to seaward of this outlet lies the bar of Port Natal, extending in a long curved line from the rocky foul ground lying around the outer end of the bluff, right round into shoal water, to the northward of the site of the present north pier of the harbour works. This bar is formed of sand washed backwards and forwards by the conflicting action of the winds, tides, and currents, and more especially by the heavy rollers which set in from the south-east after there has been heavy weather to especially by the heavy rollers which set in from the south-east after there has been heavy weather to the southward and eastward of the Natal coast.

When these rollers occur, the result is always to cause the bar to shoal up, whilst a continuance of

easterly and north-easterly winds cause it to deepen again.

The sand-bar is said to rest upon a ledge of rocks or upon rocky patches, but this has not been correctly ascertained, and a depth of 24 feet of water has been found on the bar, whilst the lead showed the bottom to be still sandy. The dotted blue lines on the accompanying plan show the direction in which the ebb tide at present runs. It will be seen that it sets along the inner side of the sand-spit, nearly at right angles to the outlet of the harbour, striking the bluff shore; it is then reflected through the outlet in the direction indicated, expending and losing a great part of its velocity when it issues beyond the guiding pier A B, erected by Mr. Milne on the extremity of the sand-spit, and which, even in its present unfinished state, has had a considerable effect in guiding the ebb more directly on the bar than it previously did. Still this pier is too short to throw the force of the ebb tide upon the bar, more especially as from its course the ebb impinges upon the guiding pier at a considerable angle instead of running parallel with it. When there has been a prevalence of south-westerly winds, or when heavy rollers from the south-west have occurred, the ebb tide has not sufficient force to scour away the sand deposited upon the bar, it therefore creeps along shore to the northward, and opens out a channel across the northern end of the bar, which is then the only one available for shipping, until a recurrence of easterly and north-easterly winds washes away the sand upon the bar, and opens out the main channel, when the ebb ceases to act upon the northern channel, which then silts up. This northern channel, marked C C on the plan, is a very inconvenient one from its position and the comparatively small depth of water in it, the average depth when it is open varying from about 11 to 13 feet at high water.

The object therefore sought to be obtained in the construction of harbour works is to direct the full force of the ebb tide straight over the bar and opposite to the outlet of the harbour, so as to deepen the channel through the bar, and afford to vessels a safe and easy means of entering and leaving the port.

2nd. The plan hitherto adopted.

It was with the object stated in the concluding paragraph of the foregoing head of report that a plan was prepared and partially carried out by Mr. Milne, C.E., in which he proposed to construct a stone was prepared and partially carried out by Mr. Alexandra of about pier, extending from the end of the sand-spit for a length of about 2,000 feet, and another of about 800 feet in length, extending from the bluff nearly at right angles to the former, with the intention of forming guiding walls for the ebb tide. Only a portion (about 1,200 feet), however, of the northern pier has been constructed, and even this has had, as I have stated, a very beneficial effect in tending to

throw the ebb more directly upon the bar.

The work, however, was discontinued by Government in 1857, for reasons stated in the despatch of Lieutenant-Governor Scott to H. M. Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 9th November 1857, by whom the whole question of the improvement of the harbour was referred to Captain Vetch, R.E., of the Harbour Department of the Admiralty, the author of the plan of the present harbour works. Captain Vetch considered Mr. Milne's plan as too contracted, and prepared that upon which I am now

called to report.

It is to be regretted that, before Captain Vetch was requested to prepare plans for these works, arrangements were not made for a careful personal survey and report by a competent Civil Engineer, setting forth all the circumstances of the case and affording the detailed information necessary to enable an engineer (himself wholly unacquainted with the locality) to design such works as, in point of efficiency and economy, would be best suited to the requirements of the Colony and to the local

peculiarities of the harbour.

Had this been done, and the proper data laid before Captain Vetch and Mr. Abernethy, and had the former been made clearly aware of the fact that, when the water over the bar was sufficiently deepened to admit of large vessels crossing it, there would be no necessity for a sheltered anchorage ground in the outer bay, as the natural anchorage lies in the inner basin, which only requires a moderate amount of dredging from time to time to render it all that is to be desired for such a purpose, I cannot believe that he would have proposed the enclosure of the large area provided for by the present plans, nor can I think that either Mr. Abernethy or Captain Vetch would have recommended the adoption (at least without considerable modification) of a plan which, although successful at Blythe Harbour, was carried out there under such totally different natural and engineering peculiarites, as to afford no criterion for its success in Natal, and which has signally failed elsewhere.

I am of opinion that, owing doubtless to a misconception of the local circumstances, caused by want of sufficiently accurate data, the present plan of the Harbour Works is erroneous both in general arrangement and in its mode of construction. The chief errors I consider to be as follows, viz.:—

The area proposed to be enclosed between the piers is much too large. This involves not only a considerable increase in the extent and consequent cost of the north pier, but is a positive injury to the utility of the proposed work, inasmuch as this large outer basin, by allowing the expansion of the ebb tide as it issues from the comparatively narrow channel between the sand-spit and the bluff, materially checks its velocity, and thereby lessens its effect upon the bar. Besides, a considerable portion of this enclosed area will inevitably silt up, and so become useless as anchorage ground unless constantly dredged; in proof of which I may state, that the foreshore immediately within the northern pier has already advanced very considerably since this work was commenced. The silting up of a portion of this outer barbary would be an absolute advantage in so for eachy decreasing and so forms the this outer harbour would be an absolute advantage, in so far as, by decreasing and confining the water area, the tide passing through it would have less room to expand, and would therefore travel with greater velocity; but this effect could not certainly have been contemplated as one of the results of Captain Vetch's design, or otherwise why should he not have kept his north pier nearer to the spit. In making the area of the outer basin so large, the object Captain Vetch appears to have had in view was to allow the waves entering the harbour to expand and lose their force, but I think this could be effected by a different arrangement of the piers, without running into the error of sacrificing the greater

part of the effect of the tidal ebb upon the bar.
2nd. The outer ends of the piers are so placed, that if carried out as designed they would be almost broadside on to the heavy seas which frequently occur, and the weight and velocity of which are such as to require a very much stronger fabric than the present piers to resist their force when thus exposed

to their full fury.

NATAL.

3rd. The entrance of the harbour is placed in the wrong direction, as with the heavy rollers which constantly occur, it would be difficult for vessels to run in between the piers without being exposed broadside on to the full force of the waves.

4th. The south pier is placed near the outer or seaward edge of a reef of rocks, which extends a considerable distance from the bluff, and it is so placed as to be exposed to the full dynamic force of the waves, which, grounding upon the edge of the reef, change their character from simple undulations to waves of progression immediately to seaward of the pier, and so strike it with their full weight and velocity; the result of which, as has been repeatedly evinced since the works were commenced, is that as soon as this pier has been advanced to a certain point about 400 feet from the landward end it is knocked to pieces by the sea, which not only has swept away the unfinished end, but has made clean breaches through it, smashing the timber framing and casing, and throwing up the stone filling in a reef to leeward of the work.

The remedies for the errors I have pointed out, based doubtless upon erroneous conceptions of the circumstances, and which more accurate information would have prevented, would have evidently been

1st. To have commenced the north pier somewhere about the point E (vide accompanying plan), and carried it out in the direction E F G, by which it would have been very much sheltered from the heavy rollers by the bluff reef, whilst it would have contracted the basin, and been more effective in guiding the ebb tide over the bar.

2nd. To have placed the south pier at or near the inner or leeward side of the reef, by which means, the seas being broken up in their passage over the shallow reef, their percussive force would be nearly expended before they reached the pier.

3rd. To have altered the direction of the south pier, as shown by the letters H J K, so that its outer extremity should have rather overlapped the end of the north pier, whereby the heavy rollers would have been less likely to take a vessel entering the harbour broadside on and to drive her against the north pier; and this overlapping would also, I believe, have caused a great deal of the sand now brought in from the south-west to be swept away to the northward of the harbour, and clear of its entrance.

4th. To have altered the pier heads to some such form as represented by the letters F G J K.

But even had these alterations in the general plan been all adopted, still I do not consider that the system of construction is, or can be, adapted to meet the circumstances under which the works

are placed, without very considerable alterations.

In his anxiety to carry out his large and comprehensive scheme at a cost within the resources of the Colony to undertake, Captain Vetch has adopted a design which is quite unsuited in itself to the locality and circumstances, and the estimate and contract for which are based upon prices so wholly inadequate, that I am surprised that any experienced engineer could have ever supposed the work could be executed for anything like the amount stated, unless indeed, he was,—as almost appears to be the case from some remarks made by Captain Vetch in his letter to Mr. James Abernethy, dated 8th July, 1859,—under the impression that Kafirs, at 9d. per day, were equal to European mechanics in skill and industry.

3rd. The action of the "teredo," and other causes detrimental to the durability of the work.

Whether creosoting is or is not a comparatively perfect means of preventing the destruction of timber exposed to the action of the sea from the ravages of the teredo and other animal agencies, and from general decay, has been a matter of much debate. In the case of the timber supplied for the Natal

Harbour Works, the question has been undeniably decided in the negative.

The works were only commenced in 1861, and already almost every pile, and other piece of timber

exposed to the sea, has been more or less injured by the teredo and limnoria.

In June, 1864, Captain Gordon, R.E., and myself, were commissioned to examine and report to the Colonial Government upon the extent to which the timber was affected by the teredo. After a careful investigation, we reported that, although the teredo had certainly attacked the timber, it had not, so far, caused any extensive or serious injury, but that we were unable to say to what amount, and with what rapidity such injury might thereafter extend, although, from the fact that when the teredo and penetrated a short distance into the wood it appeared to die, probably from the effects of the creosote, we were of opinion that the process would be a slow one. Since then, however, the destructive action of the teredo has increased and extended with a rapidity which has surprised me. Recent careful examinations have proved that the piles, cills, and other timbers exposed to the action of the sea, are completely riddled, so much so that in many places those portions of the timbers exposed between wind and water are mere shells, and the frames appear to be chiefly supported by the stone

These destructive results are not confined to such timbers only as have been badly or imperfectly creosoted, or have been longest in the water. I find all the timbers exposed to the sea are more or less affected, although, probably from being of better quality, or more thoroughly impregnated with creosote, some timbers are in a much sounder state than others. I may here state, however, that I firmly believe a large portion of the timber supplied for the Harbour Works has never properly undergone the process of creosoting, and that in many cases the creosote has only penetrated but a very short distance

from the surface.

It is evident, therefore, that the destruction of the timber framing and casing is from this cause alone, a mere question of a few years; and that it is hopeless to expect to construct any marine work, dependent upon such timber for its stability, which shall last beyond, say, ten years.

In addition to the destructive effects of the teredo, there is another cause which is detrimental to the

durability of the work.

In Mr. Abernethy's plan, the panel pieces or gridirons, which fill in the lower part of the spaces between the frames, are chiefly held in their places by the pressure of the stone filling, and, as these panel pieces are placed inside the main timbers of the frames, they have no bearing against anything but the loose rubble stone to resist the impact of the sea, and the result has been that in heavy weather the stone behind them is frequently displaced, and they are driven in and knocked to pieces,

or, in many instances, actually sawn across by the friction caused by the sea rubbing them against the

angles of the stone filling.

A large number of the panels have been either entirely or partially knocked away, and the stone filling more or less washed out at the gaps in the work thus caused.

4th. The best method of proceeding with the work in future, and the length of time necessary to complete the work so far as to cross the northern channel.

It appears that the problem now set for me by the Colonial Government is not the general question which is the best plan and mode of constructing Harbour Works or Piers so as to deepen permanently the entrance to the harbour, but what is the best method of securing the work already done, and of extending the north pier sufficiently to close the northern channel, which, it is estimated, will require the north pier to be extended about 1,000 feet beyond its present length. Had I been called upon to state generally what I consider the best arrangement and design for the works, I should have recommended a different arrangement and position for the piers than the present ones, and that they should be constructed wholly of stone, tipped in from a timber staging, and carried to a height of only a few feet above high water, the top being protected by ashlar casings, or perhaps cast-iron plates, filled in with rubble concrete.

The question, however, which I have to answer, is not which is the best mode of designing such works as will be most beneficial and effective in removing the bar, but what are the best and most economical means of rendering effective the work which has been already partially carried out for that

purpose, and of extending it.

To this subject I have given my best attention, and have bestowed much anxious thought and study upon it, ever since the Harbour Works were placed under my charge.

It was evident to me, as it must have been to any professional man who had opportunities of seeing the works in progress, whilst being carried on by Mr. Thos. Jackson, the late contractor, that the system of putting together on land the bulky and weighty frames then used, and then lowering and fixing them bodily in their places, was cumbersome and difficult to execute even in average good weather, and when there was any sea running, quite impossible. Many frames broke away when lowered into the sea and before they could be properly secured, and it frequently happened that for weeks together not a single frame could be fixed and so the work was brought to a standatill. The weeks together not a single frame could be fixed, and so the work was brought to a standstill. The mode of fixing the panel pieces was also, as I have pointed out in the preceding paragraph, very defective, and, therefore, even before I had any supposition that the works would ever be placed under my charge, I came to the conclusion that very considerable modifications in the manner of framing and fixing the timber work, must be introduced before they could be successfully carried out.

At first, however, I determined upon recommending merely a modification of the original system, viz., to make the two main side timbers of each frame piles driven about 8 or 10 feet into the sand, and to connect them by top and centre braces and diagonals as the present frames are constructed, in short, to build up the frames piecemeal in their places, instead of attempting to fix them bodily, and to fix them firmly in the sand, instead of merely letting them rest upon it, which would have the three-fold object of enabling them to be much more easily and rapidly constructed, of giving them a firm hold of the ground and a stability independent of the stone filling, and of preventing them sinking, and rocking or twisting out of their places, by the scouring away of the sand below and around them. I also designed a mode of framing and fixing the panels between the frames which would admit

of their being more easily fixed, and render them more secure.

I even proposed a report and drawings in consonance with these proposed modifications so far back as June, 1866, but before submitting them to the Government, I determined to examine more closely the extent and progress of the ravages of the teredo in the timber in situ.

The result I have already stated. It was, therefore, evident that I could not honestly recommend

to the Government any plan wholly dependent upon the durability of the timber for its efficiency.

I then considered the propriety of recommending that the continuation of the pier be carried our entirely as a bank of rubble or "Pierre Perdu," tipped from wagons running on a timber staging. I found, however, on calculation, that this would require so large an amount of stone, that the progress would be very slow and comparatively expensive, and a large portion of the timber already purchased for the work would be useless. I have, therefore, resolved to recommend to the Government the following, as the best mode I can suggest for rendering the present portion of the north pier secure, and for carrying out the work for the further distance required as rapidly and economically as possible.

I have found it necessary to remove temporarily all the top-framing and planking of the present pier, owing to the space between the centre braces, upon which the tramway for conveying the stone is laid, and the top braces being so small that stones of any size could not be carried in the trucks along the works. By removing this top work, not only can stones of any size be conveyed along and tipped into the pier, but a double line of rails can be laid down, so that the work of stone-filling can be carried on much more expeditiously than it otherwise could.

I cannot see any object in replacing this upper portion of the work, which appears to be only intended for the purpose of a promenade, and is therefore quite unnecessary, as all the actual construction of the work has to be carried on at the level of the tramway; and it involves a great waste of timber, and is, moreover, a positive source of weakness to the work, presenting, as it does, a large surface for the sea and wind to act detrimentally upon.

It is one main feature in all, or almost all, modern works of this description constructed for the improvement of harbours, and which are not also required for purposes of traffic, to keep the top of the work as low as possible, in fact, only sufficiently high above the water to allow of workmen and others passing along the top in safety, whereby less resistance is offered to the impact of the sea, the waves being only sufficiently checked to break their force, while the mass of water sweeps over the breakwater instead of striking against it. I would, therefore, recommend that the whole of the top-framing be permanently removed, and the two side pieces of the frame cut down to about 3 ft. 6 ins. above the level of the tramway. At this height I would connect them by wrought-iron rods, or by waling-pieces of timber, so that they should form handrails for the protection of the men who may from time to time

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be employed on the works. This will economize a very large quantity of valuable timber which is now worse than useless, and which can be made available for the extension of the work and for other purposes.

Where the sides of the work are more or less open from the destruction of the panel pieces, I am driving sheet-piling, well bolted and secured to walings and the remaining parts of the panels, so as to close in the gaps sufficiently to retain the stone filling. As these gaps are being filled up, the stone-packing is being completed as rapidly as possible. At present, about 85 to 90 tons of stone per diem are being tipped in, but when I get the arrangements now being made to facilitate the transport of the stone carried out, I hope to be able to deposit not less than an average daily quantity of about 150 tons in the works.

At present, as the part of the pier now being filled up is not exposed to any violent action of the sea, I am using up for its filling all the small stone and waste stuff of the quarry, retaining the larger and better stone for the more advanced portion of the pier. When the present pier is filled in up to the level of the tramway, I recommend that the outer part, at least, be planked over, to retain the stone-filling in

its place, and prevent its rolling about and so destroying the timber.

The plan upon which I recommend the pier to be extended, is as follows:—To construct a timberstaging, formed of piles well driven down into the sand, and connected by cross ties and continuous walings and diagonal braces; upon this staging a double line of rails would be fixed to carry the

stone trucks.

From this staging, small stone and quarry rubbish to be tipped as rapidly as possible, and allowed to take its own slope, and spread so as to form a hard substance to prevent the sand scouring away on the line of the work. Over this, again, larger stone to be tipped in to form a bank or mole of rubble, the largest stones being always kept for the outer sides of the mole until the work reaches to about four feet below low water, the lower part of the staging being buried in and secured by the rubble as the work proceeds.

When this rubble mole has settled down and taken something like its proper slopes and form, I then propose to close in the spaces between the sets of upright piles, carrying the tramway to a height of propose to close in the spaces between the sets of upright plies, carrying the tramway to a height of about three feet above high water by timber panels strongly secured to the piling, and fill in this space with stone rubble, the outer sides of which would be carefully packed with good sized stones, so as to make it as firm and secure as possible. The top of this filling to be cased over with a grating of timber, to prevent the stone being driven out or rolled about by the sea.

By this plan, a good solid firm base would be obtained, and the sand prevented scouring away, to the injury of the work. The stonework would, after a time, assume its natural slope, and so become

permanently fixed, the superstructure could be expeditiously carried out, a large quantity of the timber now on the works be made available, thereby economizing stone, and the work could be extended as

rapidly as would be consistent with its stability.

After the work was completed, and as circumstances would admit, stone could be tipped from the stage on both sides of the timber superstructure, so as gradually to extend the breadth of the work, and case in the timber framing, and thus, by the time the timber had become so decayed as to be no longer able to retain the stone-filling, they would no longer be required, being replaced by the outer and additional rubble-work of the mole, of the upper part of which the timber superstructure would in the first place form the nucleus. In the same manner, stone could be tipped along the outer sides of the present part of the pier, so as to case in its woodwork. The advantages of this arrangement are, that the cost of skilled labour will be very materially reduced and convict labour employed as possible the work can be carried on in almost any weather and can be advanced with largely as possible, the work can be carried on in almost any weather, and can be advanced with considerable rapidity.

The materials already on the ground, and paid for, can be employed to a considerable extent, and the work can be carried on and extended just in proportion as the finances of the Colony will admit, as, with the exception of the staging and superstructure, which will require very little skilled labour in comparison to the present system, the work can, if necessary, be carried on almost wholly by convict labour, and, however little may be done in tipping in stone at any time, still every stone tipped in will be a permanent addition to the work, so that, if it be found successful in improving the harbour, it can

be gradually extended and strengthened.

In reference to the direction of the pier, I propose a slight alteration in the curve, so as to bring the line of the work more at right angles to the direction of the rollers.

The length of time which will probably be required to extend the work upon the plan proposed, so for some the length of the work with the work will be required to extend the work upon the plan proposed, so far as to close up the north channel, will be chiefly dependent upon the rapidity with which the stone can be supplied, and estimating the daily quantity at 150 tons, which seems to be as much as the Railway Company can conveniently carry, I calculate that it will require about $2\frac{1}{2}$ years to carry out the work for about 1,000 feet, the length proposed, making due allowance for bad weather and other contingencies. After which, the casing-in of the timber work with stone, can be proceeded with according to circumstances. With reference to the south pier, I consider it impracticable and useless to attempt to construct it on its present site, and the timber had better be taken down and used essewhere.

Should it be hereafter determined to construct the south pier, it should be erected in the position indicated by the natural peculiarities of the locality, viz., on the inner side of the reef running out

It may be thought that the modifications in the work herein proposed involve a complete departure from the plans of Captain Vetch, but I beg to point out that this is scarcely the case. Captain Vetch designed his general plan independent of any special mode of construction, and he then recommended Mr. Abernethy's system of construction, because it appeared to be economical and expeditious, and had been successful in another instance, although, as I have pointed out, under very different circumstances from those of Port Natal harbour, and therefore an alteration in the detail of the work by no means alters the general design or its efficiency, and the slight alteration proposed in the direction of the pier is one necessitated by the direction of the rollers, respecting which Captain Vetch appears to have been under some misapprehension. With respect to forming a "hard" of small stone to consolidate the bottom and form a base for the superstructure, Captain Vetch himself recommended it in his report.

5th.—Upon the effects of the works, as far as they have gone, and the probable results of carrying

out the north pier sufficiently to close up permanently the present northern channel.

I have already stated that I consider the north pier placed too far to the north of the entrance to the harbour, and consequently I do not think the works can have had the effect they would have had if placed in what I consider a more favourable position; but still it appears to be the opinion of the port captain and others, who from their long acquaintance with and constant observation of the harbour are much better able to judge than I am, that a permanent improvement has lately taken place in the state of the bar; the far channel, although not so deep as it has occasionally been previous to the construction of the north pier, being more regularly maintained at a fair depth of water, and this I find is corroborated by the results of a careful examination of the soundings taken from time to time during the last three years. As this is the case, I believe that the extension of the north pier for 1,000 feet further will have a further beneficial effect on the bar, by closing the north channel, and thereby forcing the ebb tide more to seaward, and thus a somewhat increased and more regular depth of water may be expected; although I do not think, for the reasons given in paragraph 2nd, that the extension of this pier, even to a considerably further length than is at present proposed, can give anything like the depth over the bar contemplated by Captain Vetch as a permanency.

6th. Upon the plans suggested for improving the harbour by works within the bay or inner harbour, and suggestions for such improvements as may be advantageous.

Various suggestions and recommendations appear to have been made at different periods, with a view to improve the scour over the bar, by means of works within the bay. These are chiefly:—

1st. To divert the river Umgeni from its present course, and cause it to discharge into the bay.

2nd. To straighten the channels of the rivers Umbilo and Umhlatuzan from where they discharge into the bay, down towards the present deep-water pool off the Custom House.

3rd. To dredge a channel across the sand-bank, extending from the eastern end of Salisbury Island

towards the Custom House.

The intended object of the first proposition is to render the volume and velocity of the waters of the

Umgeni available as an increased scouring force.

The intended object of the second proposition is to render the action of the current of these streams available as far down the bay as possible, and to give a straighter direction, and consequently a greater momentum, to a portion of the ebb tide, and also to enable lighters and other vessels of small draught to ascend their channels to load and discharge within them, and beyond the head of the bay.

The intended object of the third proposition is to guide the ebb tide more directly on and over the

bar, and thereby render its scouring force greater.

In reference to the first proposition, setting aside the heavy cost which would be necessary to block up effectually the present outfall of the river Umgeni, and form a permanent and durable bed for it from the Queen's Bridge to Cato's Creek, where the new outfall is proposed to be placed, I believe the result would be most disastrous, as in summer, when only there would be a sufficient volume of water to have any practical effect on the bar (if even then), the quantity of silt brought down by the stream and deposited, as the greater part of it would be, within the bay would be far greater than the quantity of sand which it could possibly remove from the bar, and in winter, when the water is clear, its volume and velocity would be much too small to have the slightest effect. Besides, by lengthening the distance between the point at which the river would be diverted and its outfall, its velocity would be proportionately decreased and its fall in winter would not exceed about 18 in the course of the strength of the strengt tionately decreased, and its fall in winter would not exceed about 18 inches per mile, which would give so small a velocity of current as to have no practical effect beyond the point at which its waters fall into the wide basin of the bay. It is true Captain Vetch suggests an embankment being made across the proposed new channel with sluices, so that when the waters of the Umgeni are charged with sand they should not be allowed to flow into the bay, whilst a stream of clear water could be discharged into it; but this would virtually amount to the entire diversion of the river from the bay during the whole of the summer season, when only, as I have stated, would the waters of the Umgeni have sufficient volume and force to have the least effect.

In reference to the second proposition, the dredging and straightening of the channels of the Umbilo and the Umblutazan would, if judiciously carried out, no doubt tend to facilitate the ebb and flow of the tide in the upper portion of the bay, and would be of considerable advantage in enabling small craft to ascend these rivers as far as the public road which crosses them at high water, and by former channels from the based below the town to join these rivers channels for illiting and by former cross channels from the beach below the town to join these river channels, facilities would be effected for water carriage between the point and the town. Dredging would, however, be required from time to time, to keep these channels clear and remove the sand which would accumulate in them; but this would be excellent work upon which to employ the convicts when they are no longer required on the

harbour works.

In reference to the third proposition, there is no doubt that such a channel as that proposed by Captain Grantham would have a very beneficial effect by straightening the direction of the ebb-tide, and thereby allowing it to set more directly and with greater velocity across the bar; and were there no other questions involved than the simple one of effecting this, then I shall most strongly urge this being carried into effect, as one of the most likely means of improving the scour; but, on the other hand, any deepening of the harbour in the direction proposed for this channel would inevitably be followed by a proportionate filling up the present anchorage ground in front of the Custom House, whereby the whole of the present wharves would be rendered useless, and the anchorage ground would be entirely shifted unless constant, and heavy dredging were employed to maintain the requisite depth of water. For this unless constant and heavy dredging were employed to maintain the requisite depth of water. reason I deem it would be very inexpedient to form such a channel as that proposed, at least until the trade and wealth of the Colony have so much increased as to justify the heavy expense which such a work would necessitate for the due maintenance of a proper port and landing wharves.

Hereafter, if the Colony be in a position to undertake it, jetties could be run out at right angles from the present wharves towards the proposed new channel, which would then form the anchorage ground in lieu of the present one.

in lieu of the present one.

There is, however, one improvement which might be effected within the harbour, which would greatly facilitate the landing and discharging of goods, and would have no bad effect upon the present anchorage

ground and channels. This is the dredging of a channel across the bank lying between the Bluff anchorage and the Custom House basin. At present, owing to the shallowness of the water over this bank, vessels after coming into the bay are obliged to lie in the Bluff channel until a portion of their cargo is discharged, in order to lighten them sufficiently to cross the bank; but if the depth of water over it were increased, they would be able to come up to the Custom House basin at once, and land all their cargo close to the wharves, which would be a great saving in both time and expense.

The attention of the Government was directed to this matter by the Commission appointed some time ago to report upon the inner harbour and wharves, of which Commission I was a member; and

some other useful suggestions for the improvement of the inner harbour are also embodied in that report, and which therefore I need not repeat here, but will conclude by observing that the steam dredge therein recommended would be of immense service in improving the harbour, and should not be lost sight of when the finances of the Colony will admit of one being purchased and maintained.

(Signed) Peter Paterson,

Colonial Engineer's Office, Natal, July 17, 1867.

PETER PATERSON. Colonial Engineer.

ST. HELENA.

No. 14.

ST. HELENA.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Admiral Sir Charles Elliot, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 50.)

MY LORD DUKE,

St. Helena, July 18, 1867.

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1866, which has been somewhat delayed by serious indisposition of some of the officers in the

Secretary's department.

2. It is satisfactory to state that the revenue of 1866, compared with 1865, exhibits a net increase of 2,774l., attributable doubtless to the improvement of trade and the steady operation of the tariff arrangements effected at the close of 1865. This statement is irrespective of the loan of 5,000l. to the Government by Messrs. Solomon, Moss, Gideon, and Co., reported in my Despatch No. 104 of last year.

3. The excess of expenditure in 1866 as compared with 1865 (4,216l.) finds its explanation under two heads; viz., post-master for conveyance of direct mails from England, 1,3881., and special disbursements, which include 3,0001. remitted to the agents

in London.

4. In other respects there has been no material alteration so far as revenue and

expenditure are concerned during the year 1866.

5. I am gratified to be able to report that by the 5,000*l*. taken up on loan considerable progress has been made in the restoration of the public buildings. The Castle, comprising the council and reception rooms, the Colonial Secretary's Office, the Audit Office, the Commissioners of Crown Property's Office, &c. &c., has been extensively restored, including a new iron roof to the whole north front of the building. repairs have been entirely effected of iron, stone, and teak, and according to the extensive course of experiment we have made in this Colony against devastation by the white ant, may be pronounced to be perfectly secure. The Post Office has been re-constructed in the same substantial way. A new iron roof has been placed on the Custom House, and such other repairs as are required in that building may be safely deferred for another year The Time Office has been re-constructed in the same way. The Head School will be effectively repaired and be ready for occupation in the course of a few months. The Colonial Hospital will not need extensive re-construction for two or three years, but the re-construction of the Hospital for Females connot be delayed with safety beyond the next year.

6. Looking to the present situation of the public property in Jamestown, I can only once more request your Grace's attention to the serious inconvenience and sacrifice which would arise from any interruption in the re-construction remaining to be performed, and I trust therefore that the Crown Agents will be enabled to procure some assistance for this Government under our Loan Ordinance to the extent which I have recently suggested

to those gentlemen.

I have, &c. (Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Right Hon. Sir John Young, Bart., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 86.) Government House, Sydney, October 14, 1867. My LORD DUKE, I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Statistical Register of New South

Wales for the year 1866.

2. The Registrar General has this year prefixed a Report to the Official Returns, which will be found interesting in many respects, as conveying succinctly information in respect to the various resources of New South Wales, and the wide and safe field which the territory offers, both for the employment of the industrious and the investments of the wealthy.

3. Your Grace will observe that, notwithstanding the complaints of bad seasons and depressed commerce, the rate of wages seems to have been maintained fully at the level

of the last seven years.

4. Generally, so far as my observation extends, the remark may be made, though not wholly without reserve, that the less skilled the labour the higher the rate in the Colonial Market, as compared with the amount obtainable for the same kind of labour

5. The wages of females employed as domestic servants are mainly kept up by the disinclination of the young women born in the Colony to go into service (as it is termed). The instances of their doing so are, I am told, rare—rare I presume in

contrast to the contrary practice which prevails in most European Countries.

6. There can be little doubt that the Registrar General is right in saying that many of the articles which are now imported might be supplied by Colonial enterprise. The soil and climate are highly favourable for the production of, amongst other things, sago, arrowroot, tobacco, and various descriptions of grain and fruit; minerals abound, and the raw materials for such manufactures as glass and earthenware are found within easy reach and of excellent quality, but every undertaking which is to be carried on by hired labour is restricted by the high rate of wages and the scanty supply of labourers. Hence, however sanguine may be the hopes entertained in some quarters, and however great the desire to render the Colony independent of supplies from beyond sea, the progress in that direction will, I apprehend, be slow.

7. In the meantime, however, it is consolatory to know that those of the labouring class who have quitted the land of their birth with the hope of bettering their condition, are not likely to be disappointed in their expectations of remuneration, and of achieving comfort and permanent independence, if only they add sobriety and forethought to their

habits of industry.

8. Various attempts have, however, been made to turn the resources at command to profit, and amongst others, a manufactory, for making glass of the cheaper kinds most in use, has recently been established in Sydney; its prospects are excellent, and more orders are received than it is found possible to execute. The chief difficulty at the moment is the paucity of hands, and the somewhat irregular attendance of the workmen. The articles produced can be sold with profit at 35 to 40 per cent. below the price of importations of the same sort.

9. In accordance with the request contained in the Circular Despatch of date

16th February 1865, an extra copy is forwarded for the French Government.

I have, &c. (Signed) JOHN YOUNG. His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

The Registrar General's Report to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Introductory.

SIR, Registrar General's Office, Sydney, August 2, 1867. The annual Statistical Register for the year 1866 which is herewith presented to you will be found to contain a series of Tables carefully compiled, which give a

faithful record of the progress made by the Colony during the year 1866.

For the purpose of making a more extended comparison, there are also inserted several Decennial Tables, which exhibit, in a concise form, the changes that have taken place in the numbers, the industry, the wealth, and the commercial relations of the people for ten years past.

In the majority of their aspects it is satisfactory to find that a steady progress has been made, and that the moral and educational status of the population has kept pace with its

advance in material prosperity.

The growing interest that has been evinced during late years, by all classes of society, in all that relates to social improvement induces the hope that the materials here furnished will be carefully studied, with a view to the diffusion of correct information as to the large resources that this Colony possesses, and the advantages it offers for the employment of industry and enterprise.

In these days of widely extended information and rapid communication between distant countries, it is very desirable that the movements of commerce and of population, and the efforts of industry, should be recorded, in order that the large number of individuals in the crowded cities of Europe, who are always on the look out for some chance of amending their condition, may be directed where to bend their steps.

The details contained in these Statistics, will satisfy every thoughtful and candid inquirer that the Colony of New South Wales presents attractions equal to those of any

other Colony under the British Crown.

With a view to simplify the study of the various tables, a rapid and concise summary is here appended, and remarks are made in elucidation of the facts stated.

PART I.

Population, Immigration, &c.

The Population Table shows a net estimated increase of 20,026 persons on the numbers Population. of the previous year, the estimated number on the 31st December 1865, being 411,388, and on the 31st December 1866, it was 431,414.

The number of births registered in the Colony was 8,833 males and 8,117 females, Births.

together 16,950; while the deaths were 4,396 males and 2,965 females, together 7,361. It is worthy of remark that this is the only year during the last ten years when the births have been fewer than during the preceding year.

The deaths of this year were 7,361, being 4,396 males and 2,965 females. This is the Deaths.

largest number yet recorded. As these statistics are the subject of a special report, it is not thought necessary to

recapitulate the ample details contained therein.

The number of marriages celebrated has been smaller than that in the preceding Marriages. year, being 3,462 against 3,578 in 1865. It appears that the practice of marrying before a Registrar is becoming gradually more common, as there has been a progressive increase in the number of such marriages during the last ten years.

Immigration.

The immigration from the United Kingdom shows a larger falling off in the number than in any previous year, the total for 1866 being 1,852, of whom 1,204 came in at the public expense, and 648 at their own expense.

The Religions of the immigrants at the public expense were,—

Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Other Religions.	
369	830	5	

NEW SOUTH and their native countries were,—

England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Other Countries.
190	64	93'7	13

Lunatic Asylums.

Tarban Creek.

It is to be regretted that the numbers of those in confinement in the public lunatic asylums continues to increase in a larger ratio than the population. The total number in Tarban Creek Asylum on the 31st December 1865, was 492, of whom 315 were males and 177 were females. There were remaining on the 31st December 1866, 546, of whom 366 were males and 180 females. It is a matter of congratulation, however, that considerable improvements and enlargements have recently been made in this building, by which the comfort of the inmates will be increased, and their unhappy position ameliorated. There is a slight improvement in the number discharged during the year as cured, the numbers being 70 discharged cured in 1865, and 73 in 1866. It would appear that the British-born population supplies by far the larger portion of cases of lunacy, there being 438 of them to 56 Colonial-born and 52 Foreign-born.

Native Countries.

Parramatta.

Native countries.

Hospitals.
Benevolent
Asylums, &c.

Miscellaneous.

There is also an increase to be noted in the number of lunatics in the asylum at Parramatta. On the 31st December 1865, there were 446, of whom 255 were males and 191 were females; and on the 31st December 1866, there remained in the asylum 470, of whom 273 were males and 197 were females. Here also, the British-born numbered 369 cases, Colonial-born 63, and Foreign-born 38.

Charitable Institutions.

The table forming return No. 10 gives full details of the number of the charitable institutions in the Colony, with a statement of the receipts and disbursements. Here it is to be noted that there is a gradually increasing expenditure all over the Colony. The hospitals during the year 1865 expended 24,302l. 9s., and during 1866, 29,912l. 2s. 6d. The benevolent asylums in 1865 cost 18,230l. 5s. 1d., and in 1866, 21,894l. 8s. 10d. The orphan and ragged schools cost 8,205l. 19s. 7d. in 1865, and 9,030l. 8s. 9d. in 1866. The expenses of lunatic asylums increased from 21,079l. 13s. 4d. in 1865, to 25,110l. 16s. 4d. in 1866; and the miscellaneous charitable institutions from 13,187l. 15s. 11d. in 1865, to 17,335l. 15s. 6d. in 1866. Of the whole of this expenditure the sum of 74,388l. 9s. 8d. was contributed by Government, and 23,965l. 13s. 11d. by voluntary contributions. It is worthy of remark that, while the voluntary contributions have declined, the public expenditure has increased, and it would seem to indicate the desirability of placing these local institutions under the Municipal authorities wherever practicable, in order that an efficient check may be kept upon the expenditure.

Receipts, &c.

It appears that the total number receiving relief during the year 1866 amounted to 20,161 persons, and the expenditure was at the rate of nearly 5l. 2s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$. per head, while the receipts were at the rate of nearly 4l. 17s. $6\frac{3}{4}d$. per head.

Rates of Wages.

The average rates of wages ruling since the year 1860 will be seen by the following table; and it is remarkable that, with all the alleged want of employment and complaints of wide-spread distress, the rates have been maintained with very little deviation for several years past.

				Town.									C	OUN	TR	r.						
_	W	Wages per diem, without Board and Lodging.								Wages per annum, with Board and Lodging.												
	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1860		18	61.	186	2.	186	33.	1	864		186	5.	186	66.
Males-	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	8. 8.	8. 8.	8. 8.	8. 8.	£		d	e	£		4	;		£	1	£		£	9
Carpenters	10 0	10 0	10 0	9	S to 9	8 to 9	8 to 9					45									50 to	
Smiths	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10		1												50 to	
Wheelwrights	10 0	10 6	10 6	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10														50 to	
Bricklayers	10 0	11 0	12 to 14		9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10														80 to	
Masons	11 0	11 6	10 0	10	10	10	10														80 to	
Farm Labourers -											0 40 30											
Shepherds			••						3	0 to	35	35	5	0 to	35	30	to	35 30) to	35 3	30 to	0 38
FEMALES—	3-6-4		1.000						000		00.0		100		00	20		20.0				
Cooks	••							25 to													26	
Housemaids								16 to														
Laundresses						**		25 to													26	
Nursemaids					**	••		15 to														
General House Servants, Dairy Women, &c.					- **	••		18 to	25 20) to	25 22	10	20 1	8 TO	32	18	to :	26 18	10	26 2	zo to	25

Provisions.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The charges upon articles of consumption should be considered in connection with the cost of living in the Colony; for it has been widely asserted that they are so high that the high rate of wages which is obtained here is more than counterbalanced thereby. There is, therefore, appended an abstract of a few of the main articles with the rates ruling since 1860, from which it will be seen that the cost of the necessaries, and even of the luxuries of life, is not at all extravagant:—

					YEARS.										ij.		
					18	60.	18	61.	1862.	18	63.	18	64.	18	65.	18	66.
					s.	d.	s.	d.	s. d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat, pe	r bushel	-	-	-	8	0	6	6	7 0	6	6	12	0	8	0	6	6
Bread (1st		per lb.	-	-	0	$\frac{3\frac{1}{2}}{3\frac{1}{2}}$	0	4	$0 \ 2\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{2\frac{1}{2}}{2}$	0	3	0	4	0	4
Flour	do.	do.	-	-	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$	0	3	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ (0 & 2) \end{bmatrix}$	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	3
Rice -		-	-		0	5	0	4	{ to }	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	4
Oatmeal			-		0	6	0	6	0 5	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
Tea -					2	3	2	4	$ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 & 6 \\ to \\ 2 & 6 \end{array} \right\} $	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	6
Sugar		-	-		0	$5\frac{1}{2}$	0	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \\ to \\ 0 & 5 \end{array} \right\} $	0	$4\frac{1}{2}$	0	$4\frac{1}{2}$	0	$4\frac{1}{2}$	0	4
Coffee					1	6	1	6	$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 1 & 4 \\ \text{to} \end{array} \right\}$	1	4	1	4	1	4.	1	4
									$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$								
Meat, fresh	h, per lb.		-	-	0	4	0	3	{ to }	0	$4\frac{1}{4}$	0	4	0	3	0	3
Butter, do	. do.		_		1	6	1	8	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$	1	6	1	6	1	9	1	3
Cheese, En	nglish, do	-	-	-	1	6	1	7	1 6	1	6	1	6	î	6	i	6
Potatoes, p	er cwt.				7	6	1 7	3	2 3 1 6 8 0	7	0	5	0	8	0	6	0

PART II.

RELIGION, EDUCATION, AND CRIME.

The table No. 19 exhibits the provision made for public worship by the members of all denominations. It does not comprise the total expense, except in so far as the cost is defrayed by the public funds. The denominations that do not partake of State aid are of course under no obligation to disclose their receipts and expenditure, but they are known to be large, and it is probable that the voluntary contributions to the support of Religion exceed the sum granted by the State.

The registered number of ministers is stated to be 439, which is an advance of 43 on the number registered in 1865. The number of churches and chapels is 604 against 576 in 1865, while the dwellings and public buildings used for purposes of public worship have increased from 922 to 956. The accommodation and attendance have also increased as far as can be ascertained, but the returns are admittedly imperfect. Sufficient evidence is given, however, that there is a progress in the religious life of the population that keeps pace with the increase of the population.

The proportionate attendance of the various denominations was as follows:-

Church of England				33.54 per	cent.
Roman Catholic -	-			21.54	"
Presbyterian -	-		-	11.16	"
Wesleyan Methodist	-			23.70	"
Congregational -		-		4.39	"
Primitive Methodist	-		-	2.50	"
Baptist			-	1.68	"
Miscellaneous -		7.		1.49	19

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sunday Schools.

There is a large increase in the number of Sunday schools, which are stated to be 640 in number in 1866 against 588 in 1865, of all denominations. The teachers also have increased from the number of 4,155 in 1865 to 4,439 in 1866, and the scholars from 35,566 in 1865 to 37,215 in 1866. The table No. 20 furnishes particular details as to the relative numbers attending the various denominational schools; and it is satisfactory to observe that such an active and beneficial agency is at work in the dissemination of intellectual culture and religious training. There were on an average eight children to each teacher in 1866.

Day Schools.

Orphan Schools. The children in the Protestant and Roman Catholic orphan schools number 510 This is 15 in excess of the previous year's returns.

Destitute Children's Asylum. The expenditure amounted to 8,332l. 6s. 3d., against 7,500l. 5s. 4d. the year previous. It is a lamentable fact that the Destitute Children's Asylum shows an increase of over 100 inmates, compared with 1865, viz.:—

The Government contributions are largely in excess of the previous year, whilst the voluntary contributions have not met with the same spirit of liberality:—

	Government.	Voluntary.	Total.	
1865 1866	£ s. d. 2,433 13 4 7,526 12 6	£ s. d. 3,979 15 3 3,042 4 5	£ s. d. 6,413 8 7 10,568 16 11	
Increase - Decrease -	5,092 19 2	937 10 10	4,155 8 4 /	

Dissolution of National and Denominational Schools. Working of National and Denominational Institutions.

The Board of National Education and the Denominational School Board were dissolved at the end of the year by the Act of Parliament 30 Victoria, No. 22.

The number of Schools, Teachers, and Scholars of these institutions for the past two years are appended:—

			Schools.	
		1865.	1866.	Increase.
Denominational - National	-	*351 268	378 272	27 4
Total -		619	650	31

The Teachers have gradually increased as follows:-

		Schools.				
		1865.	1866.	Increase.		
Denominational -	-	445	505	60		
National	-	386	404	18		
Total -	-	831	909	78		

^{*} Twenty-two of these schools were closed during the year.

The Scholars of both systems show an increase of over 5,000, viz.:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

		Schools.	
	1865.	1866.	Increase.
enominational ational	23,746 18,126	27,709 19,258	3,963 1,132
Total	41,872	46,967	5,095

Under the Denominational system, each school averaged 73 scholars.

Under the National system, each school averaged 67 scholars.

The aid from Government in support of Denominational Schools amounted to 40,412l. 2s. 1d. (inclusive of 828l. 15s. 5d. from Clergy and School Estates), or at the rate of 1l. 9s. 2d. per head; and from voluntary contributions, 18,800l. 3s. 2d., or at the rate of 13s. $6\frac{3}{4}d$. per head.

For the support of National Schools the State contributed 40,828l. 15s. 5d., or at the rate of $2l. 2s. 4\frac{3}{4}d$. per head. The receipt from voluntary contributions was 13,424l. 3s. 6d.,

or 13s. 111d. per head.

The University of Sydney had the attendance of 38* students, against 43 the year sydney before. The receipts were, from Government, 5,000l., and from voluntary contributions, University. &c., 6,226l. 13s. 9d., making a total of 11,226l. 13s. 9d.

St. Paul's College has 11 students, against 8 the year before. amounted to 810l., of which sum 650l. came from the State.

The receipts st. Paul's College.

St. John's College remains with the same number of students as in 1865, viz., 8. St. John's College.

The receipts from Government amounted to 500l., and from other sources 300l.

The Sydney Grammar School had the attendance of 14 teachers (6 engaged the whole Sydney Gramtime, and 8 engaged for particular lessons) to impart tuition to 114 scholars. shows a decrease on the return of the previous year of 2 teachers, and in the average attendance 27 scholars. Towards the support of this school the State contributed 1,500l. (endowment), and the receipts from other sources were 2,056l. 10s., of which sum 2,002l. 10s. were school fees.

The private schools number 498, with an attendance of 11,292 scholars.

Altogether there are now in the Colony 1,155 schools, with an attendance of 59,594 scholars, of which 31,183 are boys, and 28,411 girls.

The number of schools and scholars in the Colony during the last five years is Total schools appended.

				Scholars.				
Y	ear.		Schools.	Malė.	Female.	Total.		
1862	-	-	925	22,125	20,086	42,211		
1863		-	976	24,511	22,299	46,810		
1864	-	1,5	1,022	25,297	23,130	48,427		
1865		-	1,069	27,867	25,586	53,453		
1866		-	1,155	31,183	28,411	59,594		

The total amount paid from the Treasury in 1866 for the support of Educational Institutions was 104,599l. 16s. 3d., or at the rate of 4s. 10d. per head of the population.

Crime.

The commitments for trial to the higher Courts of Justice in 1866 are in excess of Commitments the previous year, as will be observed from this table:-

* Matriculated students attending lectures, 34. Matriculated students who obtained dispensations exempting them from attending lectures, 2. Non-matriculated students, 2. Total, 38.

schools.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

V				1865.	1866.	Increase
Supreme Court—				No.	No.	No.
Felonies -		-	-	166	222	56
Misdemeanors	-	-	-	50	57	7
	Total	-	-	216	279	63
Courts of Quarter Ses	sions—					
Felonies -		-	-	717	741	24
Misdemeanors	-	-	-	190	235	45
	Total	-		907	976	69
Genera	l Total			1,123	1,255	132

Taking the mean of the triennial periods, 1861-3 and 1864-6, a slight difference of 0.002 per 1,000 of the population in favour of the former period will be observed, viz.:—

1861 to 1863 - - - 2:371 per 1,000 of the population.

1864 to 1866 - - - 2.369 ,, ,,

Difference - - 0.002 ,, ,,

Convictions.

The convictions in the higher Courts of Justice show a marked increase upon the returns since the year 1860. Beyond this period I think it unnecessary to introduce into this work. The year's increase over 1865 is 84, as follows:—

				1865.	1866.	Decrease.	Increas
Supreme Court—				No.	No.	No.	No.
Felonies -	-	-	-	105	150	_	45
Misdemeanors	-	-	-	22	34	-	12
	Total	-	-	127	184		57
Courts of Quarter Sess	sions—					Z	
Felonies -	-		-	439	433	6	_
Misdemeanors	-			120	153	-	33
	Total		-	559	586	6	33
Genera	1 Total			686	770	6	90

A difference of 0.362 per 1,000 of the population in favour of the period 1861-3, compared with 1864-6, will be seen as follows:—

1861-3 - - - 1.327 per 1,000 of the population.
1864-6 - - - 1.689 ,, ,,

Difference - - 0.362 ,,

Ratio of commitments and convictions to population. The following table will give the proportion the commitments, as well as the convictions, bore to the population from 1860 to 1866.

			The USE		Proportion to	Population.	. 40
	Con- victions.	Commitments.		Convictions.			
	the Year.			Ratio per 1,000.	Or,	Ratio per 1,000.	Or,
1860	330,840	685	405	2.070	1 in 483	1.224	1 in 817
1861	353,332	820	437	2.321	1 ,, 431	1.237	1 ,, 808
1862	365,741	879	514	2.403	1 ,, 416	1.405	1 ,, 711
1863	371,160	887	497	2.389	1 ,, 418	1.339	1 ,, 746
1864	385,893	975	590	2.526	1 ,, 395	1.528	1 ,, 654
1865	402,163	907	686	2.255	1 ,, 443	1.705	1 ,, 586
1866	419,695	976	770	2.325	1 ,, 430	1.834	1 ,, 545

Of the committals—61 per cent. in 1860, 53. 22 1862, 58. 99 56. 1863, " 60. 1864, ,, 75. 1865, and 99 79. 1866 were brought home to conviction.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Summary Jurisdiction.

The apprehensions throughout the Colony numbered 16,004, of whom 12,194 were males and 3,810 females.

The indictments preferred against the offenders were,-

Offences.

	181	Males.	Females.	
Offences against the person		4,990	2,242	
Ditto property Drunkenness	-	3,877 3,327	2,242 721 847	
		3,321	041	
In all -	-	12,194	3,810	

The investigations by the Magistrates into the various cases resulted as follows:-

Result of investigation.

					Con	victed.	Committe	d for Trial.	Discl	arged.
					Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Offences against the	person	-		-	3,190	1,737	233	25	1,567	480
Ditto	property	-		-	1,532	372	924	99	1,421	250
Drunkenness -		-	-	-	1,716	380		-	1,611	467
	Total			-	6,438	2,489	1,157	124	4,599	1,197

Of the males, 53 per cent. were convicted, 9 per cent. committed to trial, and 38 per cent. discharged.

Of the females, 65 per cent. were convicted, 3 per cent: committed to trial, and 32° per cent. discharged.

The following table will give the proportion the apprehensions bore to the population Ratio of appreduring the last eight years; and if it can be taken as an index to the moral state of hensions to the community, it certainly goes to prove that a change for the better has taken place during the last two years: -

	Year.	Population.		Ratio to Population.		
rear.	Fopulation.	Apprehensions.	Per 1,000	Or,		
	1859	330,860	18,018	54.458	1 in 18	
	1860	330,840	19,193	58.013	1 ,, 17	
	1861	353,332	16,737	47.368	1 ,, 21	
	1862	365,741	15,410	42.133	1 ,, 23	
	1863	371,160	15,855	42.717	1 ,, 23	
	1864	385,893	16,858	43.685	1 ,, 22	
	1865	402,163	15,687	39.006	1 ,, 25	
	1866	419,695	16,004	38.132	1 ,, 26	

New South Wales.

PART III.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Imports and Exports.

The tables that have been compiled, giving detailed accounts of the imports and exports during the year, will show in a striking manner how dependent the Colony is upon foreign supplies of raw produce and manufactured articles. With a view to direct attention to some of the many imports which might be supplied by colonial enterprise, a selection has been made of the more prominent instances, showing the amounts annually expended for consumption.

Acids

The imports for 1863 were valued at 5,035l., in 1864 3,437l., in 1865 4,328l., and in 1866 2,952l.; while the exports were in 1863 1,695l., in 1864 976l., in 1865 1,886l., and in 1886 they were valued at 606l. The chief of these articles is sulphuric acid, which most valuable chemical agent is used in the manufacture of artificial manures, kerosene oil, and in various other processes of the arts. It is satisfactory to be able to report that this highly important product is now made in the Colony quite equal in quality to that imported, and that the cost is even less than the English acid can be laid down for here. The consequence is that a considerable demand is springing up, and already we find it becoming an article of export. The principal ingredient in its composition is sulphur, which is obtained for this market from the South Sea Islands—1,500 cwt. having been imported thence during the year 1865, and 654 cwt. during 1866. There is, however, some expectation that it will be possible to collect and utilize the large quantities of sulphur which are yearly wasted in the reduction of the various minerals and ores in our mining districts. Considering the great variety of uses to which sulphuric acid is now applied, it is probable that this will become a very important manufacture here, especially as this port has the advantage of more direct communication with the South Sea Islands, and the superior cheapness of coal here will enable us to produce it at a lower cost than any other of the Australian Colonies.

Apparel and Slops.

There were imported to the value of 198,500l. in 1864, to 192,112l. in 1865, and 199,760l. in 1866. With the recent extraordinary development of machinery in the manufacture of clothing, it is rather surprising that so large a quantity of ready-made articles should be imported to this market, where there is a large unemployed female population. The amount of Victorian-made clothing imported is considerable, having been valued at 29,545l. in 1865, and 10,134l. in 1866. It would appear that there is an opening here for Colonial industry that would probably give employment to a large number of young females who have now become familiar with the sewing machines that have revolutionized this department of labour.

Arrowroot and Sago.

These valuable products were imported to the value of 2,819l in 1864, 3,277l in 1865, and 2,804l in 1866. The great bulk of this import was arrowroot alone; but inasmuch as this article grows freely all over this Colony, it is to be hoped that we shall be soon independent of foreign supplies. At the recent Intercolonial Exhibition held at Melbourne there were many samples of arrowroot shown by growers in the Hunter, the Clarence, and the Illawarra Districts. They attracted considerable attention in Victoria, and several specimens were awarded medals. The quality of many of the samples was pronounced equal to the best West India, and the Victorian agriculturists considered that it would become an important article of New South Wales produce. The manufacture is simple, and machines for the grating of the root are now to be had at a very low price, and it is essentially a domestic manufacture. It is to be hoped that attention will be turned to this natural product, so that instead of finding it among our imports it may take a position among our exports.

Ammunition.

Gunpowder is largely imported, showing a value of 20,143l. in 1864, of 32,460l. in 1865, and 17,049l. in 1866. The demand in the adjoining Colonies for mining purposes

is also very large. As nitre, the chief ingredient in this compound, is not produced here, NEW SOUTH it is not probable that it will be manufactured in this Colony for some time to come; but there are some recently discovered substitutes used for explosive purposes, such as guncotton and nitro-glycerine, which are coming extensively into use. Either of these articles might be manufactured here with advantage, as the restrictions that are imposed upon the carriage of them by sea render the cost of them very great. As it is highly probable that this Colony will be the seat of a vast mining industry, attention should be directed to all the products employed in such operations.

WALES.

Arms-Guns.

These articles have never yet been made in the Colonies, although the imports are large, viz., valued at 14,972l. in 1864, 32,460l. in 1865, and 17,049l. in 1866. The elaborate machinery, and the large amount of skilled labour required for the manufacture of fire-arms, forbid the expectation of its establishment here; but it is some satisfaction to know that when the time shall arrive for such enterprises we have iron of the finest quality for the purpose, abundance of coal to melt it, and timber admirably adopted for gun stocks. With such advantages, it is probable that New South Wales, in case of urgent need, would be called upon and would be able to supply arms for the whole of the Australian Colonies.

Blankets.

This article was imported to the extent of 21,530l. in 1864, 12,913l. in 1865, and 14,479l. in 1866. When it is remembered that this Colony exports upwards of 30,000,000 lbs. weight of wool annually, it appears strange that a manufactory for blankets has not been established here. In an article where the raw material forms so large a proportion of the cost, and which is not subject to any elaborate process of manufacture, it would appear that colonial industry was peculiarly applicable and must succeed.

Candles-Sperm.

These also form large articles of import; the value being in 1864 87,152l., in 1865 34,835l., and in 1866 52,956l. It would be expected that a Colony which exported tallow to the extent of 75,810 cwt. in 1865 and 27,726 cwt. in 1866, might certainly produce all the candles necessary for its own consumption. But this is a remarkable instance of the power of capital and cheap labour; for the attempt to introduce the manufacture has been made both in this Colony and in Victoria, and it was found that the imported article could be sold at a cheaper rate than the home-made, although the tallow from which the foreign article was made had to perform the entire circuit of the globe. The extraordinary progress that is now made in the use of Kerosene oil for purposes of illumination has materially diminished the imports of sperm candles, and rendered the establishment of a colonial manufactory very improbable.

Confections and Preserves.

These were imported to the value of 37,917l. in 1864, 39,616l. in 1865, and 29,920l. There can be no doubt but that the domestic manufacture of these articles is very large, especially in the country. Considering that fruit is so abundant and cheap, and sugar also, it is rather surprising that the imports should be so large as they are. When our railways shall have placed us in more rapid communication with those parts of the Colony where all the English fruits are grown in perfection, we shall probably have colonial manufactures established that will render us independent of foreign supplies. At present, our imports from Tasmania are considerable. There is one preserve that surely ought to be produced here, namely marmalade. The orange grows in such luxuriance, and sugar is so cheap, that there can be no excuse for the importation of this favourite delicacy. Candied orange and lemon peel also ought to be produced in sufficient quantities for home consumption. There are various other products of the orange also that should attract the attention of the manufacturing chemist and perfumer.

Cordage and Rope.

There is a large demand for this article in the Colony, arising from the extensive employment of shipping. The imports in 1864 were 43,835*l*., in 1865 44,435*l*., and in 1866 12,554l. The raw materials of cocoa-nut fibre and New Zealand flax could be

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obtained in considerable quantities, but at present there is but a small demand. A rope manufactory has been established here, but not on a scale sufficient to influence the importations to any extent. It would be desirable to ascertain if there are any native products obtainable in large quantities suitable for cordage purposes, as the demand is constant, and likely to increase as mining enterprise is developed.

Earthenware and China.

The imports of this material are very large, having been in 1863 45,244l., in 1864 40,243l., in 1865 53,520l., and in 1866 29,791l. This is also an article to the production of which it may be hoped and expected that colonial industry will be shortly directed. The large cost of importation, arising from the bulky character of the goods, and the great amount of breakage that takes place, is computed to double the English cost when delivered to consumers. There is no doubt but that the Colony possesses in abundance the raw materials for every description of China and earthenware, and the plant of this manufacture is not an expensive one, for pottery is chiefly the product of hand labour. Fuel is cheaper here than in any other of the Colonies, and there would probably be found skilled potters in our midst, who, in the absence of employment in their own trade, have taken up with other trades, but who would gladly enter in their own business were an opportunity afforded. This business would also give light and healthy employment to a large number of women and children. In the commoner description of China and earthenware it would appear that there is an opening for colonial manufactures, as there has been proved to be for coarse earthenware pipes, tiles, jars, chimney-pots, &c. These used to be imported to the extent of 1,884l. in 1863, 781l. in 1864, 420l. in 1865, and nil in 1866; but recently the colonial manufacture has quite driven the imported article out of the market. At the late Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne the specimens contributed by local makers were highly commended, and medals were awarded to them.

Flour and Grain.

As the import and export of these articles are treated of in another portion of this Report, under the head of Agriculture, it is unnecessary to enter upon them here.

Fruit—Dried.

The imports amounted to 53,262l. in 1864, to 29,351l. in 1865, and to 63,293l. in 1866. At present there is no attempt made to supply the home market from the productions of the Colony. It is certain that the Colony could produce raisins, dried apples, dried quinces, figs, almonds, dried peaches, and most of the other imported fruits, in great perfection, and samples have been exhibited for years past. It is to be hoped that, when population shall become more abundant, many of these smaller industries will take root, and add to the material prosperity of the Colony.

Fruit-Green.

This is a large item in our exports, amounting to 38,961*l*. in 1864, 57,557*l*. in 1865, and 46,708*l*. in 1866. It consists chiefly of oranges to Victoria and the neighbouring Colonies. It appears certain that our climate, which is so favourable to the growth of this delicious fruit, will secure us this large and profitable trade, which is capable of considerable expansion. There are also various other products to be derived from the orange which deserve attention, as has been before mentioned.

Furniture.

This was imported in 1864 to the extent of 57,211l., in 1865 48,842l., and in 1866 28,109l. Our exports of colonial manufactured furniture for the same periods were 3,714l. in 1864, 2,305l. in 1865, and 2,286l. in 1866. Here again is an article which might be supposed, from its bulk, and from its variation in fashion, to be especially adapted for home manufacture, The timber of the Colony is admirably suited for ornamental purposes, and is far more durable than any imported material, but in spite of these advantages native industry cannot compete with imported articles. The only prospect there is for this manufacture being established here as a remunerative enterprise would appear to be by the application of machinery to its production on a large scale. By this means the neighbouring Colony of Victoria has set on foot local manufactures, which appear to prosper.

Glass.

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The quantity of glassware imported in 1863 was 15,887l., in 1864 21,031l., in 1865 40,451l., and in 1866 20,455l. In addition to these large items, there were imported plate and window glass to a large amount. It has long been known that this Colony possesses in abundance the finest materials for the manufacture of glass, with the single exception of soda ash, which can be imported at a cheap rate. The high rate of carriage, and the very large proportion of breakage that takes place in the importation of this article, would appear to offer a sufficient bounty for a local manufacture, and it is satisfactory to see that an attempt has been made in Sydney by the establishment of a glass works, which is now in operation. The quality of the article produced has been highly approved, and it is to be hoped that this attempt will result in the development of a new and important industry in our midst.

Hats, Caps, and Bonnets

Were imported to the value of 48,617l. in 1864, 49,438l. in 1865, and 55,065l. in 1866. From the very bulky nature of these goods, the import charges add enormously to their original cost. There is a small local manufacture springing up, aided by the application of machinery. We hear also that, at the French Exhibition, very compact and complete machinery is exhibited for the manufacture of felt hats from Australian wool, in a remarkably short space of time. It is possible that such a process might be applied with success here, where the raw material could be had at such advantage. With reference to bonnets, however, the influence of fashion is so powerful that it is probable they will always continue to be imported in large quantities.

Hosiery and Gloves.

These articles were imported to the value of 35,926l. in 1864, 39,407l. in 1865, and 40,959l. in 1866. There is no reported manufacture of either of these articles in the Colony. In the article of hose, which is eminently a domestic manufacture, and is capable of being carried on in the dwelling of the artisan, it is remarkable that no workman should have set up a stocking frame. We have wool of the finest description, and shall shortly number cotton among our productions; so that, at no distant date, it is probable that these smaller departments of the clothing trade will be entered upon here, giving employment to numbers of youths of both sexes. In the article of gloves, although the demand is large, and the cost greatly augmented from the difficulty of importing them free from damp or mildew, yet as we do not produce the finer descriptions of leather, there is little prospect of this industry being established here.

Hardware.

The imports under this designation amounted to 262,868l. in 1864, to 289,692l. in 1865, and 165,881l. in 1866. During the same period the exports were 123,494l. in 1864, 125,505l. in 1865, and 2,338l. in 1866. We have no means of accounting for the large falling off in the exports in 1866, but the magnitude of the trade in this branch should prompt the inquiry whether there are not many articles capable of being produced to advantage in the Colony. The colonial produce exported amounted to 2,439l. in 1864, 4,094l. in 1865, and 2,338l. in 1866. There are iron and brass foundries in this city capable of turning out works of the greatest magnitude, or of the most delicate character, and there is a large trade done in machinery of various kinds. Tinware is also produced to a considerable extent here, so it might be supposed that many articles of hardware could also be produced, if a beginning were once made. It is well known that in Birmingham, the manufacturing centre for hardware, a great variety of articles are made by individuals who work in their own homes, or who hire "steam power" in small shops attached to large manufactories. For these independent labourers there would seem to be a favourable opening here, as they would save the whole of the intermediate profits.

Instruments—Musical.

The imports of pianofortes are very large, amounting to a value of 27,939l. in 1864, 26,712l. in 1865, and 19,313l. in 1866. There can be no reason why this manufacture should not flourish here as it does in the neighbouring Colony of Victoria, where there are no less than four manufacturers, one of them turning out a large number of very excellent instruments. Of course the chief materials are imported; but this Colony can

NEW South supply ornamental and other timber equal in quality and as cheap in price as that produced in any part of the world. The rapid growth of musical acquirement and taste promises that there must be an increasing demand for instruments.

Iron and Steel.

The import of these articles amounted to 148,152l. in 1864, 105,983l. in 1865, and 106,871l. in 1866. It is nevertheless true that there is an iron mine of great richness within 75 miles of Sydney, and that a sum of 80,000l. has been expended in buildings and plant for the manufacture. The Fitz Roy Iron Mine is situated on the Great Southern Railway, and there is abundance of coal and limestone in the immediate vicinity. It is admitted that the ore is of a singularly pure and valuable quality, being a brown hematite, containing 55.5 per cent. of metallic iron. Many hundred tons of iron have been made, of which castings of the finest character have been taken, and were exhibited at Paris in 1855, in London in 1862, and at the Melbourne Intercolonial Exhibition in 1866, on all which occasions the quality of the iron was highly spoken of. The supply is unlimited. The works are now, however, at a stand-still for want of additional capital. Those connected with similar undertakings in England will be able to judge the demand which this manufacture makes upon capital; they will also be able to estimate the value of such a mine in the immediate vicinity of a market where there is a certain prospect of an unlimited demand for the raw and manufactured product. It can be only a question of time, for this must eventually become the centre of the iron produce for the Australian Colonies.

Lead.

This article was imported to the extent of 11,019l. in 1864, 12,805l. in 1865, and 6,6901. in 1866. The Colony possesses this mineral in various places, but as yet it has not been systematically worked. This is another of the gifts of Providence that awaits the hand of the practical miner and the assistance of the capitalist to be made a fruitful source of wealth. The quantity is stated to be quite ample for all the requirements of this and the adjoining Colonies, but the deposit is unfortunately at some distance from easy land or water carriage.

Leather—Unmanufactured.

In this article our exports considerably exceed our imports, the exports for 1865 being 19,925l., and the imports 6,569l.; and for 1866 the exports were 13,794l., and the imports 6,6611. From the large number of animals slaughtered in the Colony it was to be expected that hides, both raw and tanned, would be an important article of trade, and it is found that there is an increasing demand for colonial-manufactured leather. There is an opening, however, for the manufacture of roans, bazils, and parchment, none of which are at present produced here, although thousands of skins of sheep and kangaroos are annually exported, and a large number annually wasted. The demand, though not large, is increasing, and considering the small value of the raw skin, it would appear that the trade must be a profitable one.

Leather—Manufactured. Boots and Shoes.

These were imported in 1864 to the amount of 355,281l., in 1865 379,484l., and in 1866 153,346l. It will be observed that there is a considerable falling off in the last year. This is occasioned by the rapid rise of the home manufacture of these articles by machinery. It is highly probable that only the finer descriptions of boots and shoes will ere long be imported, and such as are sewn by hand. In this department of industry the Colony bids fair to be comparatively independent. The chief cause of the prosperity of this branch of trade is, that machinery performs so important a part in its production. It may, therefore, serve as an encouragement to all manufactures where machinery supplies the want of skilled labour.

Matting and Rugs.

The value of the imports for 1864 was 4,388l., 1865 12,937l., and in 1866 1,646l. The facility with which cocoa-nut fibre could be obtained in this market has led to its being used in our prisons in the manufacture of coir mats and matting. The quality of the article is quite equal to any imported, and it is sold at a slightly less price. It would appear, therefore, that there is no prospect of this industry being likely to be taken up as a speculative industry; but at the same time, as there are unhappily a very large number of able-bodied prisoners in our gaols, for whom this manufacture appears to

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supply fitting and convenient employment, it is worth inquiry whether the quantity pro- New South duced could not be augmented, so as to do away with the necessity of such large importations.

Oil-Kerosene.

In 1865 there were 217,061 gallons of this oil, valued at 42,226l., imported into this Colony; and, in 1866, the value of the imports was 27,428l. It is very satisfactory to know that there is every probability of our shortly being independent of foreign supplies, for the shale from which the oil is extracted has been found in immense deposits at Hartley, at Wollongong, and in other localities. There are now no less than five manufactories established. At the Hartley mine there were 1,500 tons of oil-bearing shale extracted in 1866, valued at 6,000l. The quantity of crude oil now extracted per week is 3,500 gallons, and the quantity extracted during 1866 was 182,000 gallons. The demand for this new illuminating agent is very large in all the Australian Colonies, and, as yet, this is the only Colony that bids fair to be able to supply it at a price that shall compete with the imported article. As soon as some difficulties in the manufacture are overcome, there is no doubt but this will prove a most valuable addition to our native products.

Oil-Olive.

This was imported to the value of 1,110l. in 1865, and 1,363l. in 1866. With a climate and soil in which the olive thrives luxuriantly it may be hoped that this is a manufacture which will ere long take root amongst us, for in those countries where it is carried on it is found even more lucrative than the cultivation of the grape. The fruit is also largely imported, although it has been proved that the colonial product is quite equal in every respect to the best prepared in France.

Onions.

It appears that this is an article both of import and export, for in 1864 the imports amounted to 4,180*l.*, in 1865 3,572*l.*, and in 1866 to 3,095*l.*; while in 1864 we exported to the value of 1,979*l.*, and in 1865 4,083*l.* In the returns of exports they are valued at 1*l.* per cwt. At this price they should be a profitable crop. Considering the facile terms on which land is now to be had, and the certain demand that there always is for this valuable root, it seems strange that it should continue to be imported—it ought rather to be a large article of export.

Oilmen's Stores-Pickles, &c.

These were imported to the amount of 106,235l. in 1864, 88,391l. in 1865, and 99,621l. A large proportion of these articles might be and ought to be made in the Colony. With a soil and climate capable of growing all the English fruits and vegetables, it is a reproach to our industry and enterprise that there is no manufactory for the preservation of fruit or the manufacture of pickles. Sugar is cheaper than in England, and in many parts of the Colony English fruits grow as well as they do in Tasmania, where large quantities of fruit are preserved and exported to this and the Victorian markets. The preservation of fruit is in Tasmania a highly important industry. The Colony produces the earthenware jars necessary to preserve them for market at a very cheap rate, and there is no apparent reason why a large home trade should not spring up in this article. The same remarks will apply to pickles. Vinegar can be produced here in any quantity, and the necessary vegetables are all grown in as great or even greater perfection than in England. A manufactory of glass jars has just been started, so that there is every facility to hand. Pickles and preserves for home consumption are made both in South Australia and Tasmania,

Pipes - Tobacco.

The import of this article amounted in 1864 to 5,550l., in 1865 to 5,520l., and in 1866 to 4,119l.; the greater proportion coming from Great Britain. It is probable that, although the Colony possesses the clay and even meerschaum or silicate of magnesia necessary for making the more expensive pipes, yet the perfection of machinery and the enormous production of the home factories, will for some time to come enable them to supply this market at a price with which colonial manufactures cannot compete. The article is mentioned to illustrate the extent of the market for such an apparently unimportant trifle.

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Perfumery.

The imports in 1864 were 6,774l., in 1865 10,400l., and in 1866 5,389l. Attempts have recently been made, and with some success, to make perfumes from Australian plants. There are certain indigenous trees that yield very fragrant odours, and which may be found growing in the greatest profusion. The most important is the Eucalyptus citroida, from the leaves of which the scent known as the Verbena can be procured in any quantity. The large cultivation of the orange, also, in the neighbourhood of Sydney, affords opportunities for the distillation therefrom of a variety of perfumes which have a large mercantile value.

Potatoes.

These were imported to the amount of 33,130l. in 1864, 36,118l. in 1865, and no less than 60,312l. in 1866. The exports were 9,268l. in 1864, 13,732l. in 1865, and 16,146l. in 1866. Here again is an evidence of deficient industry, or of dormant enterprise. It is certain that the Hunter, the Illawarra, and Shoalhaven districts have fertile land enough, not only to supply the needs of this Colony, but to raise sufficient to enable us to export potatoes to other Colonies; yet it appears that we receive from them large supplies. It is to be hoped that the rapid progress of settlement under the new Land Act will soon rectify this state of things.

Saddlery and Harness.

The imports in 1864 were 49,244l., in 1865 60,676l., and in 1866 51,493l. There is at present a large home manufacture independent of these extensive importations, and it appears that the colonial manufacture is increasing in importance, arising from the spread of the employment of machinery. There is, as will be seen, an opening for this manufacture, and the more so as there are fashions peculiar to the country which can best be adapted on the spot. Manufacturers should know that there is abundance of leather of the best quality for harness purposes, both plain and enamelled.

Salt.

There have not yet been discovered any natural deposits of salt, so that it is vain to think of competing with the large and cheap importations which take place from England. The importations amounted to 33,339l. in 1864, to 31,587l. in 1865, and to 5,932l. in 1866.

Soap.

In this article the value of the imports of 1865 amounted to 1,886l., and in 1866 to 2,331l., but during the same period there was exported in 1865 to the value of 11,255l., and in 1866 5,235l.

Paper.

Of this article there was imported, in 1865, the value of 81,926l., and in 1866 66,846l. The consumption of paper in this Colony is very large, especially of printing paper, to supply the numerous journals that are now published here. In the hope of supplying this demand a company has been established for the manufacture of printing paper, and a very substantial paper-mill has been erected on the George's River, at Liverpool, and a plant of first-class machinery imported. It is to be hoped that this effort will succeed, as it will give employment to a large number of women and children, as well as to skilled artisans. The supply of the raw material of rags is abundant from our own population, and as there is no other factory in the adjacent Colonies a further supply may be calculated on from thence, as soon as the article has a mercantile value. There can be no doubt but this is a most promising industry. The amount at present expended on the works is 30,000l. The company hope to commence the manufacture in a few months.

Timber.

Although this Colony produces an unlimited quantity of timber of the most durable and ornamental character, yet we find that the imports from foreign countries are very large. In the year 1865 the amount imported, of all descriptions, was valued at 71,815*l.*, and in 1866 was 22,977*l*. At the same time we exported cedar to the value of 8,135*l.* in 1865, and 13,968*l.* in 1866, and hardwood to the value of 21,675*l.* in 1865, and to

8,0131. in 1866. Our total exports of timber in 1865 were 36,1051. The most valuable New South timber that this Colony possesses at present is the cedar, which is greatly in demand in the adjoining Colonies for the manufacture of ornamental furniture. There is no doubt, however, but there are other descriptions of timber of equal beauty, and that will eventually come into use. Considering the inexhaustible supply from the forests which are yet untouched, this must be regarded as a very important item in the wealth of the Colony.

Tobacco.

The imports of manufactured tobacco for the year 1865 were 1,295,427 lbs., valued at 132,519l. The value of the imports for 1866 was 74,484l. Of unmanufactured tobacco the imports were 184,948 lbs. in 1865, valued at 12,610*l*., while the value of the import in 1866 was 17,090*l*. Cigars were imported to a value of 35,937*l*. in 1865, and 13,790*l*. in 1866. In view of these enormous figures for a population of about 150,000 males (for females and children must be excluded when considering the consumption of this article), we may perhaps find some explanation of the alleged inactivity and want of energy that has been stated to be a characteristic of the inhabitants of the Colony. But the above figures, large as they are, do not represent the whole amount of tobacco consumed in the Colony, for there is a very large home manufacture, amounting to 8,619 cwt. in 1864, 8,006 cwt. in 1865, and 7,755 cwt. in 1866. The quantity imported, grown, and manufactured in the year 1865 gives a total supply of upwards of 16 lbs. a head to each of the 150,000 males assumed to be of age to become consumers of the article. It is not asserted that this amount was consumed, but that was the supply of the year. Considering the large expenditure for this luxury, it is satisfactory to find that the taste of the population for the native-grown article is on the increase. The improvements that have been made in the manufacture, and the high price of the American growth, have combined to establish a demand for the home manufacture, especially in the country districts, which will eventually largely supplant foreign importations.

Wine.

The imports in 1864 were valued at 137,010l., in 1865 124,503l., and in 1866 at 128,202l. At the same time, the exports were valued at 73,188l. in 1864, 61,136l. in 1865, and 3,847l. in 1866. The wine produced in the Colony during 1864 was 136,976 gallons, in 1865 was 161,298 gallons, and in 1866 was 168,123 gallons. There is reason to believe that the taste for colonial wine is on the increase. The planting of vineyards is becoming more popular, and the prejudices which have for a long time past hindered the progress of this important industry are being gradually dissipated. The opinions of competent judges, expressed at various Exhibitions of Wines of the growth of New South Wales, have been uniformly favourable. At the recent Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne, where a critical examination was made of their qualities, the highest testimonials were given them for their purity, their flavour, and their body. At a meeting of the Medical Society of Victoria, it was recommended unanimously that colonial wine should be administered in hospitals and asylums, in place of the imported ports and sherries that have hitherto been employed; and one wine specially noticed for this purpose was the growth of Albury, in the Murray River District in New South Wales. This district is also remarkable for the production of a high class and generous wine, which is much appreciated in the Colony of Victoria, where it has a considerable sale. The recent immigration of a large number of German residents from South Australia will also tend to increase the cultivation of the vine in this district. The wines of the Hunter District are also rapidly acquiring repute. In the Colony of Victoria the consumption of colonial wine has been adopted to a much larger extent by the town population than has been the case in New South Wales, and it is rapidly on the increase. There is no doubt but the recent Exhibition there tended to stimulate this demand, and it would be desirable if some encouragement could be given to wine-growers in this Colony, to place a wholesome and invigorating beverage before the public. When one considers the enormous consumption of spirits and highly fortified wines in this Colony, and calculates the vast sums of money that are annually expended upon them, and the injurious results to the population, the desirability of spreading a taste for the pure and wholesome product of the Colony becomes very evident. The only reason that these wines are not in larger demand is, that the public generally are ignorant of their quality. It is to be hoped that increased attention will be paid to this valuable industry, and that before long the products of our vineyards will form an important item in our exports.

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Imports.

The total value of articles imported was 9,403,1921. This amount is 1,232,3151. short of the importations last year, viz.:-

	-				1865.	1866.
					£	£
From	United Kingdom	-		-	4,349,371	3,352,768
22	British Colonies	-		-	4,978,706	4,504,067
"	Foreign States			-	1,307,430	1,546,357
	Total -				10,635,507	9,403,192

Our importations from the United Kingdom were nearly 1,000,000l. sterling less than 1865, and from British Colonies over 474,000l. The imports from foreign states have increased by the sum of nearly 239,000l. sterling.

The imports were at the rate of 22l. 8s. 1d. per head of the population, and in 1865

26l. 8s. 11d. per head.

Exports.

The total value of exports shows a small increase upon the returns of the former year, viz. :-

	_					1865.	1866.
			Nes.			£	£
To United Kingdom		315	-		-	3,319,628	3,162,615
., British Colonies -			1	-	-	6,045,856	6,466,038
" British Colonies - " Foreign States -			•	, -	-	198,334	285,186
Total -					-	9,563,818	9,913,839

The exports averaged 23l. 15s. 7d. per head of the population in 1865, and 23l. 12s. 5d.

per head in 1866.

From the ports in the Colony the export of articles of colonial produce amounted in value to 6,057,585l., and during the last ten years the articles of colonial produce amounted to 44,174,730l. This amount would be considerably augmented were the values of the articles exported overland in years gone by recorded in the office.

Shipping -- Inwards.

Both the inward and outward shipping returns show a large increase in number and

tonnage, compared with the records of any previous period.

Since 1857 the vessels that have visited the ports in the Colony have increased very close upon a thousand in number, whilst the tonnage has more than doubled.

The arrivals during the last five years are appended :-

Increase in 10 years.

Arrivals.

				Number.	Tonage.
1862			-	1,493	454,837
1863	-	-	-	1,494	479,827
1864			-	1,849	607,168
1865			-	1,912	635,888
1866			-	2,099	730,354

Percentage of arrivals at ports. Arrivals with cargoes, &c.

Nationality.

British.

57 per cent. of the arrivals were at the port of Sydney, 37 per cent. at Newcastle, and 6 per cent. at Grafton, Eden, and Richmond.

1,216 vessels arrived with cargoes, and 883 in ballast, 770 being at the port of Newcastle, the principal coaling depot of the Australian Colonies.

Of the arrivals, 1,962 vessels were British, of the measurement of 673,392 tons, with an aggregate crew of 35,091 men. This would give, on an average, nearly 18 seamen to every vessel, or one seaman to every 19 tons. Each vessel averaged 343 tons.

Then comes 137 foreign vessels, of 56,962 tons measurement, with an aggregate crew New South of 1,790 men. This would give, on an average, 13 seamen to each vessel, or one seaman to every 31 tons. Each vessel averaged 415 tons.

From the foregoing figures, it will be observed that the British vessels were manned Manning of far superior to the foreign ones.

Foreign.

Outwards.

As a matter of course, the outward shipping has increased in the same ratio as the

inward shipping.

The number of vessels cleared at ports in the Colony was 2,259, of an aggregate of Clearances. 784,381 tons. Of these, 2,117 were British, of the measurement of 727,525 tons, with an aggregate crew of 38,108 men; and 142 were foreign vessels, of an aggregate of 56,856 tons, and 1,811 seamen.

Only 115 vessels, of 40,074 tons, left in ballast, whilst 2,144 vessels, of an aggregate Departures of 744,307 tons, left with cargoes.

The vessels that left the ports in ballast were 110 British, of 38,329 tons, and five Nationality of foreign, of 1,745 tons.

vessels in ballast. Countries to

departed.

The principal countries and colonies to which the vessels were bound were:

					British.	F	oreign.
				No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Chili			-	20	9,800	10	3,518
China	-		-	93	50,176	37	14,462
Great Britain -			-	40	35,427	1	711
Java			-	9	3,931	14	6,518
New Zealand -	-		-	403	115,339	7	1,836
Queensland -	-		-	383	119,509		
Russia		500	-	33	13,357	8	3,014
South Australia	-	-	-	199	65,654	3	632
South Sea Island	s -	-	-	48	10,202	6	2,418
Tasmania -		1 1 457	-	98	23,693	2	364
United States -	-	-	-	47	23,572	2	724
Victoria -			-	655	205,047	4	1,374

The remaining vessels directed their compasses to different parts of the globe. Not a single vessel, out of the many hundreds that visited the port of Newcastle in Departures ballast, left without a freight of goods, as will be observed from this table:

from New castle.

Nationality.

			With	Cargoes.	In :	Ballast.
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British :—			000	000 077	. 00	00 410
Sydney	•	-	989	389,075	98	33,418
Newcastle	-	-	936	284,492	-	_
Grafton, Eden, and Richn	nond	-	82	15,629	12	4,911
Total, British		-	2,007	689,196	110	38,329
Foreign :-						
Sydney	_	-	81	31,028	5	1,745
Newcastle	7	-	56	24,083	-	
Total, Foreign	1	-	137	55,111	5	1,745
General Total			2,144	744,307	115	40,074

The departures are in excess of the arrivals, as follows:

Excess of departures over arrivals.

		Number.	Tonnage.	Crews.
Vessels Inwards		2,099	730,354	36,881
Vessels Outwards -	- P	2,259	784,381	39,919
Excess of Departures		160	54,027	3,038

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PART IV.

MILLS AND MANUFACTURES.

Mills.

The number of mills for grinding and dressing grain has fallen off from 175 in 1865 to 159 in 1866. The number is but two in excess of the returns for 1857. In 1860 there were 193 mills.

Manufactories, works. &c.

The manufactories, works, &c., number 2,389, against 2,133 the year before, classified as follows:-

*Connected with or dependent upon Working on raw materials the proof Manufacture of articles of food of	luction	of the	pastoral	inter	est -	1,125 250
the produce of agriculture, an	d of ar	ticles o			-	37
Building materials and plastic man	ufactui	es			-	361
Machine manufactories -	-	-			-	108
Miscellaneous works, &c.	-	-		-		508
	Total r	number	-			2,389

Woollens.

Two woollen manufactories turned out 172,720 yards, against 145,707 yards the year before.

During the last ten years 1,118,314 yards were manufactured, of which 514,717 yards were recorded during the first quinquennial period, and 603,597 yards the second quinquennial period.

The manufacture of soap is on the decline. In 1864, 74,900 cwt. was manufactured;

in 1865, 71,896 cwt.; and in 1866, 68,456 cwt.

Twenty-six establishments were in existence in 1864, and also 1865, and in 1866,

twenty-three.

Tobacco.

Soap.

Notwithstanding the duty of 2s. and 1s. per lb. respectively upon imported tobacco, manufactured and unmanufactured, there is a falling off in the manufacture of the colonial weed since 1864, viz.:-

1864	-			$8,619\frac{1}{2}$	cwt.
1865			#	8,006	11
1866	4	-		7,755	

Boiling-down establish. ments.

There were 39 establishments in 1864, 33 in 1865, and 37 in 1866.

The high price of meat, both here and in the sister Colonies, has had its effect upon the boiling-down system. This is the only year during the last decade that sheep were free from the pot; and only 2,868 head of cattle were slaughtered for tallow, against 44,103 head the year previous. The production of tallow is consequently remarkably small compared with former years, viz.:-

				Slaug	Slaughtered.	
				Sheep.	Cattle.	produced.
	1			No.	No.	Cwt.
1864	-	-	-	39,927	60,090	75,241
1865		-	-	10,006	44,103	73,703
1866			-	_	2,868	19,416

It should be observed that a large quantity of the tallow produced is from the refuse from butchers' shops.

Fifty-seven establishments were in existence in 1864, 52 in 1865, and 45 in 1866. In 1864, 4,569 pigs produced 19,736 lbs. of lard; in 1865, 2,763 pigs produced 10,182 lbs.; and in 1866, 1,026 pigs produced 6,284 lbs.

^{*} Exclusive of 159 mills for grinding and dressing grain.

PART V.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PRODUCTION.

The quantity of gold brought to the Mint by escort has been on the decline of late Gold by years, and each successive year since 1862 shows a marked falling off in the returns from escort. each of the gold districts, viz. :-

				Wester	n District.	Southern	District.	Northern	District.	T	otal.
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
				Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£
1862	-	-		321,720	1,219,752	225,576	886,717	28,242	106,065	575,538	2,212,534
1863	-	-		215,443	818,741	170,766	669,700	37,198	140,607	423,407	1,629,049
1864	-	-		149,709	562,425	139,270	544,253	27,450	104,491	316,429	1,211,169
1865	-		1	141,251	536,395	117,319	457,288	22,240	84,222	280,810	1,077,905
1866	-	-	-	130,835	499,794	88,810	345,436	21,844	83,045	241,489	928,275

Since 1862, the receipts have fallen off to the weight of 334,049 ounces, of the value of 1,284,259l.

The miners' rights issued also show a corresponding decrease, viz.:-

Miners' rights.

			Number.		
1862 -			25,038		
1863 -	110	-	20,648		
1864 -	-	-	15,508		
1865 -		-	15,458		
1866 -		1000	* 13,905		

The gold averaged in the Western district 3l. 16s. 4d. per oz.; in the Southern Average price of gold per oz. district, 3l. 17s. 9d. per oz.; and in the Northern district, 3l. 16s. per oz.

Coal Mines.

The coal mines were actively worked during the year. The quantity raised weighed Coal raised, 774,238 tons, of the value of 324,049l. This exceeds the previous year's operations by 188,713 tons, valued at 49,745l.

Over half a million of tons were shipped to the Australian Colonies and Foreign States, Coalshipped to. as follows:-

				Tons.	Value.
					£
Victoria -	A POLICE		-	143,746	67,908
New Zealand -				95,446	47,194
Queensland -			-	10,406	5,039
Tasmania -		-	-	13,203	6,095
South Australia -	- 17		-	81,079	32,708
Singapore -		74 .	-	11,604	7,134
Hong Kong -		-	-	15,512	13,412
Shanghai -			- 1	63,593	45,701
Petropaulovski -	_	-	-	11,984	10,382
United States -		-	-	48,242	29,075
Java			-	11,999	7,657
Valparaiso -			-	8,044	7,687
Twelve other place	s -		-	26,047	20,596
Total				540,905	300,588

There were twenty-five mines, five of which were inactive, against twenty-four the Mines. year before.

^{*} The miners' rights issued in the Adelong and Araluen districts for the last half of the year could not be ascertained. The figures for the first half of the year have been substituted. 20044.

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

Copper mines.

Of late years greater attention has been paid to the working of the copper mines. In 1865, 1,943 tons of ore were raised, valued at 37,345l. The returns for this year are too incomplete to admit of comparison, but at the Cadai and Icely mines in the Orange district, it appears there were 304 tons of ore raised, of the value of 23,390l.; and at the Currowang mine near Goulburn, 947 tons were raised, but the value is not returned.

Export of copper.

The quantity of copper and ore exported in 1866 was, to

Great Britain— Copper Ore -	•	•	-	255 tons, value 20 ,, ,,	£ 18,905 1,800
Victoria—	Total		-	275 " "	20,705
Copper ore			-	$2\frac{3}{4}$,, ,,	85
	In all			$277\frac{3}{4}$,, ,,	20,790

Oil mines.

The discovery of oil mines in the districts of Hartley, Wollongong, and Camden, has added a new and important feature in the Colony's history.

Kerosene shale raised.

It appears from the returns of 1865—the first year of their introduction into the tables—that 710 tons of Kerosene shale were raised, of the estimated value of 2,4501.

Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company. In 1866, the Hartley Kerosone Oil and Paraffine Company raised at their mine 1,500 tons of shale, valued at 6,000l. The weekly production of crude oil by this company amounts to 3,500 tons, making a total quantity for the year of 182,000 tons.

Western Kerosene Oil Company. amounts to 3,500 tons, making a total quantity for the year of 182,000 tons.

The Western Kerosene Oil Company has not yet commenced active operations, awaiting the receipt of the machinery from England, but 97 tons, of the value of 392l., were raised as samples, to show the quality of the article to consumers.

Wollongong

At the Wollongong mine, 1,173 tons were raised, valued at 1,759l.

Five manufactories are in course of erection, and when in thorough working order will

give an impetus to mining operations.

It is a matter of regret that the Fitzroy iron mine, producing material of an excellent quality, was not worked during the year. In 1865, 4,000 tons of ore were raised, of the value of 1,500l.

Agriculture.

Occupiers of land.

The number of occupiers of land (excluding those occupied for pastoral purposes) increased from 22,509 in 1865, to 24,629 in 1866; of these, 15,173 were freeholders, and 9,456 were leaseholders. The freeholders have increased at the rate of nearly 10 per cent., and the leaseholders nearly 9 per cent.

Holdings.

The total extent of land held increased from $7,277,255\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1865, to $7,448,200\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1866, the increase being 170,945, or 2.35 per cent. With respect to tenure, 4,916,916 acres, or 66 per cent. of the whole area occupied, were held in freehold; and 2,531,283 acres, or the remaining 34 per cent., were leaseholds.

Average possession of holders.

Upon an average, each freeholder possesses 324 acres, and each leaseholder has possession of 267 acres. With respect to cultivation, the freeholders had barely 6 per cent. of their land under crop, and the leaseholders $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; nevertheless, it is noticeable that the cultivation of the land is largely on the increase, $452,850\frac{1}{4}$ acres having been turned up by the plough in 1866, against $381,400\frac{1}{4}$ acres during the year 1865, the increase being 71,450 acres, or 18.73 per cent.

Enclosed lands.

The enclosed lands not in cultivation have increased from 1,980,547 acres in 1865, to $2,374,201\frac{3}{4}$ acres in 1866, being an increase of $393,654\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or 19.87 per cent.

Unenclosed lands.

The lands unenclosed decreased from $4,915,308\frac{1}{4}$ acres in 1865, to $4,621,148\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1866, the decrease being $294,159\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or nearly 6 per cent.

Acreage under crop.

The quantity of land under crop was $451,225\frac{1}{4}$ acres, against $378,254\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1865. This is an increase of $72,970\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or 19.29 per cent. on the acreage under crop in the previous year.

Wheat for grain.

It is gratifying to be able to remark that since the foundation of the Colony, in no single year has the wheat crop been so large nor the produce been so great as during 1866, the acreage sown being 175,033\frac{3}{4} acres, with a produce of 2,226,027 bushels, against 131,653\frac{1}{4} acres, producing 1,013,863 bushels, the year before. The produce per acre in 1866 was 12 bushels 43 lbs., against 7 bushels 42 lbs. in 1865.

Produce per acre.

The greatest average produce per acre was in 1856 and 1858, when the yield was nearly $16\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre. The lowest was in 1863 and 1865, when the yield was about $7\frac{3}{4}$ bushels per acre.

The ratio of produce to the population was in 1864 3 bushels 10 lbs. per head, in New South 1865 2 bushels 27 lbs. per head, and in 1866 5 bushels 5 lbs. per head. Taking seven bushels per head as the average rate of consumption, including seed wheat, we have not Produce to yet succeeded in growing enough for our own requirements, being about two bushels short population. per head. It is satisfactory to know, however, that the large harvest in the neighbouring Colonies of Victoria and South Australia, both of which Colonies have grown during last year a surplus, can make up for any deficiency here. It is to be hoped, also, that the extended settlement of population on the soil, and the progress that is now making with

our railways, will in future render us independent of foreign supplies.

The maize crop for grain shows a large increase on the quantity grown during the Maize for previous year. In 1866 119,519 acres were sown with seed, against 113,442 acres the grain. year before, being an increase of 6,072½ acres, or 5.25 per cent. The produce amounted to 3,878,064 bushels, or 32 bushels 24 lbs. per acre, being in excess of the previous year of 1,118,160 bushels, or 8 bushels 5 lbs. per acre. The yield of the crop of 1865 was remarkably small, only averaging 24 bushels 19 lbs. per acre. There is one product of maize to which it would be desirable if more attention was directed, namely, maizena, or corn flour, as it is sometimes called, which is an admirable substitute for arrowroot. This preparation of maize is largely imported here from England, and a manufactory of it has recently been established in Paramatta. There have been two manufactories at work in Melbourne, which are supplied with the grain from this Colony, producing maizena for home consumption at a price which does not permit importation of foreign supplies. If this is possible in Melbourne, where they have to import the grain from here, it would appear certain that there is an opening for such a manufacture here.

The barley crop also exhibits a very considerable increase on the crop of the previous Barley for year, the figures being, 1866, 6,211 acres; 1865, 5,843\frac{3}{4} acres; being an increase of grain. 367\frac{1}{4} acres. The produce was 91,741 bushels, or 33,371 bushels in excess of the previous At the same time, it is worth notice that the imports of malt were 44,408 bushels in 1865, valued at 21,892l., and 48,539 bushels in 1866, valued at 23,822l. It is well worth consideration whether, with such a demand, more attention should not be paid to the cultivation of barley, for there can be no doubt that when our railway system is extended into districts where the climate is more suitable for the brewing of beer, this

industry will become an important one.

The breadth of land sown with oats for grain amounted to 14,914 acres in 1866, Oats for grain. against 10,939 acres the year before, the increase being 3,975½ acres. The produce amounted to 304,028 bushels, being 188,023 bushels in excess of the previous year. The average yield to the acre was 20 bushels 15 lbs. in 1866, while in 1865 it was only 10 bushels 24 lbs. Here, too, it is satisfactory to notice increased activity in the cultivation of the soil, which tends to show that the population is gradually settling down to permanent occupations, and developing the real wealth of the country. This is by far the

largest crop of oats that was ever grown in the Colony. The quantity of land under cultivation for potatoes was $18,809\frac{3}{4}$ acres in 1866, against Potato crop. $15,209\frac{3}{4}$ in 1865, the increase being 3,600 acres. The yield was $43,869\frac{1}{2}$ tons, or $12,502\frac{1}{4}$ tons in excess of 1865. The average crop was 2 tons 6 cwt. to the acre, while in 1865it was 2 tons 1 cwt. There has been a very large increase in the cultivation of this valuable crop during some years past, there being double the quantity of land now applied to it that there was in 1858, when there were 8,006 acres planted, giving a crop of 21,491 tons. But large though this increase is, it has not kept pace with the requirements of the population, for there were imports of potatoes from Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, to the amount of 9,904 tons, valued at 60,312l., during the year 1866. It is, therefore, evident that there is a large field for greater enterprise in the cultivation of this important

root, which ought to appear among our exports instead of being largely imported.

The quantity of land under hay was 74,742\frac{3}{4} acres in the year 1866, against 61,909\frac{1}{2} Hay crop. acres in 1865, showing an increase of 12,8334 acres over the previous year. The produce was 118,010 tons, against 54,230 tons in 1865, showing an increase of 63,780 tons, or more than 100 per cent. The average to the acre was 1 ton 11 cwt. in 1866, and in 1865 only 17 cwt. to the acre. This is an article of export, the amount of 2,843½ tons having been exported in 1865, valued at 16,589l., and 2,156½ tons in 1866, valued 13,149l. The chief market for our hay is Queensland, and it is an article for which the demand is likely to be constant. With the facilities this Colony possesses for growing lucerne upon the alluvial bottoms, it should be a large article of export.

It is to be regretted that this article does not appear among the productions of the Cotton. past year. In the year ending 31 March 1865, there was reported to be 1751 acres under crop, producing 29,012 lbs. of cotton. In the year ending March 1866, there were only 11 acres, yielding 380 lbs.; and last year the cultivation appears to have

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New South Wales. ceased altogether. The returns to hand do not give the reason for this falling off, but it is doubtless in consequence of the reduction in price on the reopening of the American market. But while the production of this Colony has ceased, the neighbouring Colony of Queensland has gone largely into the cultivation, and cotton now forms a considerable item in the exports thence.

Tobacco.

The tobacco crop is smaller this year than the previous, there having been 1,3264 acres under crop, against 1,499 acres for the year 1865. The produce was 2,477 cwt., against 7,469 cwt. in 1865, being a decrease of 4,992 cwt. Notwithstanding this decrease, the taste for colonial-grown tobacco is gradually spreading, especially in the country districts. The reason of the falling off is doubtless in consequence of the very large imports that took place on the cessation of the American war; but the high price that prevailed during that period had the effect of stimulating the colonial product, and establishing a trade that promises to become a permanent one, especially as the manufacture has recently been very much improved.

Sugar-cane crop.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane has lately attracted considerable attention, and it now begins to show prominently amongst the returns. The year 1864 was the first year when it was noticed in the annual reports, and the progress since then has been as follows:—

For the year ending 31 March 1864, 2 acres, producing 280 lbs. 1865, $22\frac{1}{2}$, , , 4,478 lbs. 1866, 141 , , , 5,700 lbs. 1867, $116\frac{1}{4}$, , , 17,780 lbs.

It will be observed that, although the plantation was not so large in 1865-6 as in 1866-7, the produce is considerably larger, from the canes in the latter year coming into bearing. This is probably the case in some of the districts named in the present returns, viz.:-Tweed River, three acres; Brisbane Water, 27 acres; and Port Macquarie, 474 acres, amounting together to 77 acres under cultivation, but no produce is returned; probably At Kiama 13 acres are There is no doubt that the crops had not arrived at maturity at the date of the return. reported under crop, but only 40 lbs. of sugar have been made. a great deal of attention has lately been directed to this important product, and that the result will be seen shortly in the extended production of colonial sugar, either from the sugar-cane or from the beet-root. It is stated that experiments at Kiama and at Port Macquarie have shown that a product of three tons of sugar can be obtained from one acre of sugar-cane. Samples of the sugar have been exhibited, and have been much approved. Considering the vast amount of sugar consumed in the Colony—the imports for 1865 being valued at 534,953l., and for 1866 at 614,848l.—it is highly important that every effort should be made to encourage its growth and manufacture. There is every reason effort should be made to encourage its growth and manufacture. to believe that the climate and the soil in many parts of this Colony are admirably adapted to the plant, and it is to be hoped the efforts now making to establish this industry on a large scale will meet with success.

Green food for cattle.

Gardens and orchards.

The quantity of land laid down in green food for cattle was $21,112\frac{3}{4}$ acres, being a little short of the acreage of the previous year, namely $21,252\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Gardens and orchards, and all other in crop, amounted to 15,219½ acres in 1866, against 12,238¾ in 1865. These show a gradual yearly increase, and when the maturity and growth of the trees are considered, must indicate a very large augmentation in the fruit production of the Colony. From this circumstance, and from the facilities that will be afforded when the railway system is opened further into the interior, it may be expected that fruit of all descriptions will be both abundant and cheap, and that the imports of green fruit, which now amount to upwards of 20,000*l*. per annum, will no longer be required.

Vineyards.

The cultivation of the vine is also increasing, although not so fast as might be expected, considering the increasing popularity of colonial wine. The returns of land under cultivation for wine-making purposes for the last three years are as follow:—

	Acreage.	Wine produced.	Brandy manufactured.
For the year ending March 31, 1865 ,, 1866 ,, 1867	$945\frac{1}{4}$ $1,243\frac{1}{4}$ $1,357\frac{1}{2}$	Gallons. 161,298\frac{1}{4} 168,123 242,183	Gallons. $3,077$ $1,439\frac{1}{2}$ $3,176$

The produce per acre in 1865 was 1703 gallons; in 1866, 1354 gallons; and in 1867, New South

Although the Colony is able to produce wine which will bear favourable comparison with the average of imported wine, and which is undoubtedly more wholesome than many of the highly fortified and manufactured wines which are so largely drunk, it yet appears that the importation exceeds the colonial production to a very considerable extent. Attention has been recently drawn, however, to the valuable qualities of the wines produced in these Colonies, and a large demand has sprung up in the neighbourhood of the vineyards, where it is sold at a very cheap price. The value of colonial wine exported in 1865 was 5,038l., and in 1866 3,847l. It may reasonably be expected that in the course of a few years this will become an article of large export to Europe, India, and the neighbouring Colonies.

The cultivation of the grape for table use is also increasing, the following being the

returns for the last three years :-

					Acreage.	Quantity obtained.	
Year ending	g March 3	31, 1865 1866 1867	-	-	$ 332\frac{3}{4} \\ 395\frac{3}{4} \\ 573\frac{1}{2} $	Tons. 345 560 668	

The quantity of land planted for vineyards which was unproductive was as follows:— Year ending 31 March 1865, 571 acres; 1866, 487 acres; and 1867, 6684 acres.

Pastoral.

The returns of live stock show a large increase in the number of sheep, but a decrease Live stock. in horses, cattle, and pigs, as will be seen by the following figures. Horses were 282,587 in 1865, against 278,437 in 1866, showing a reduction of 84,150. Cattle were 1,961,905 in 1865, against 1,771,809 in 1866, showing a reduction of 190,096; pigs were 146,901 in 1865, against 137,915 in 1866, showing a reduction of 8,986. But, on the other hand, the sheep in 1865 numbered 8,132,511, and in 1866 were 11,562,155, showing an increase of 3,429,644. This number of sheep will give nearly 27 per head of the population. This large increase has had its effect on the quantity of wool shipped, which has increased from 18,764,482 lbs. in 1865 to 21,663,634 lbs. in 1866, besides which there has been an export of 15,317,051 lbs. of wool overland, making together a total of 36,980,685 lbs., being the largest quantity ever shipped from the Colony, even when Victoria and Queensland formed portions of its territory. Taken at a valuation of 1s. 6d. per lb., the value of the year's crop is 2,773,554l., or at the rate of 6l. 4s. per head of the population.

The number of sheep and cattle in the Colony on the 1st of January 1867, as set Collections by forth in the returns made by the Clerks of Petty Sessions, under the Acts of Parliament Sessions, under the Acts of Pa 30 Vict., Nos. 11 and 16, was 13,072,838 sheep, and 1,729,766 head of cattle, to which should be added 100,000 sheep estimated as the number possessed by owners of 500 and under, who are not required to make returns, and 80,000 head of cattle belonging to The two together making 13,172,838 sheep and owners of 24 head and under. 1,809,766 head of cattle depasturing in the Colony. This is 1,610,683 sheep and 37,957 head of cattle in excess of the numbers collected on the 31st March 1867,

by the Police.

Under the above circumstances there is, I think, very fair grounds of complaint as to Present mode inaccuracy in the returns as collected by the police, and I would beg to suggest that of collection they be relieved of the duty, and that a sum of money—say, two thousand pounds—be asked from Parliament to enable the Registrar General to employ his own officers in the collection of the returns of agriculture and live stock, &c.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Banks.

count.

PART VI.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

Under this heading will be found returns relative to the Income and Expenditure of the Government, the operations of our Banking Institutions, and of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint. There is also a detailed account of the Taxes, Fees, &c. chargeable in the various Departments of the Government.

The number of Banking Institutions in the Colony is nine, against ten* the year

Pate of dis-

The rate of discount charged by each of the Banks on local bills was,—under 95 days' currency, 8 per cent. per annum; from 95 to 125 days' currency, 9 per cent. per annum; and above this period, 10 per cent. per annum.

Rate of exchange, purchase rate.

The maximum purchase rate of exchange on bills on London, ranged from 1 per cent. discount to \(\frac{3}{4}\) per cent. premium, against a similar rate of exchange in 1865. The maximum purchase rate ranged from 1 per cent. premium to \(\frac{1}{2}\) per cent. discount. The maximum selling rate was \(\frac{1}{2}\) per cent. premium. The minimum selling rate was \(\frac{1}{2}\) premium and par.

Depositors in the Banks were allowed interest at the rate of from 3 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

per annum, for the following periods, viz.:-

On fixed deposits for 3 months, 3 and 4 per cent.

6 months, 5 and 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

,, 12 months, 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Coin and bullion.

Interestallowed on deposits.

The coin and bullion lying in the Banks and the Mint, on the 31st December 1866, show a small decrease of 29,934l. on the figures of the previous year, viz.:—

				M	int.	Bar	iks.	m
				In Coin.	Bullion.	In Coin.	Bullion.	Total.
	4			£	£	£	£	£
1865 -		-	-	-	37,459	1,228,450	120,801	1,386,710
1866 -	•		-	240	18,635	1,259,150	78,751	1,356,776
Increase	-	74.0	-	240	VALUE OF	30,700		
Decrease			_	Uno E Control	18,824		42,050	29,934

The average amount each Bank had lying in their coffers on the 31st December, in

coin and bullion, was 148,655l.

The amount of paper currency in circulation on the 31st December was 673,847l. against 760,258l. the same period of the former year, the decrease being 86,411l., or a little over 11 per cent. The circulation averaged 674,507l. against 731,739l. in 1865.

The Banks have lessened their liabilities by the sum of 5,730l. compared with the

former year. In 1866 they stood at 6,956,584%, and in 1865, 6,962,314%.

Their assets show a falling off of a trifle over 12,000l., viz.:

31st Dec	eember,	Decrease.	
1865.	1866.	Decrease.	
£ 10,947,162	£ 10,935,031	£ 12,131	

Deposits.

Paper

currency.

Liabilities.

Assets.

The deposits show an increase of over 3 per cent. on the previous year.

In 1865 they were - - £5,827,098
Increase in 1866 - - 176,915

Total, 1866 - - 6,004,013

^{*} The Agra Bank ceased operations this year.

Their discounts were 7,458,200l., against 7,100,361l. in 1865. Increase, 357,839l.

The number of depositors in the New South Wales Savings' Bank has increased from 17,472 in 1865, to 17,576 in 1866, the increase being 104, as follows:-

NEW SOUTH WALES. Discounts. Savings' Bank.

			Syc	lney.	Country.	
			Depositors.	Prisoners of the Crown.	Depositors.	Total.
1866 1865		-	13,439 13,428	1,077 1,078	3,060 2,966	17,576 17,472
	Increase Decrease	-		-1	94	104

The amount deposited shows a falling off of 36,412l. 8s. 11d., compared with 1865, as will be observed from the following table:—

		Sydn	ey.		
		Depositors.	Prisoners of the Crown.	Country Depositors.	Total.
1866 - 1865 -		£ s. d. 575,649 13 10 607,899 8 11	£ s. d. 9,778 10 0 9,321 3 2	£ s. d. 122,386 19 4 127,007 0 0	£ s. d. 707,815 3 2 744,227 12 1
	Decreas Increase	32,249 15 1	457 6 10	4,620 0 8	36,412 8 11

In 1866 the depositors in the Bank at Sydney averaged 42l. 16s. 8d. per head, and in Depositors, 1865, 45l. 5s. 5d., showing a decrease of 2l. 8s. 9d. per head. In the Country Districts the depositors averaged 39l. 19s. 10d. per head in 1866, and in 1865, 42l. 16s. 5d. per head, or 2l. 16s. 7d. in excess of the previous year.

By way of illustrating the working of this Institution during the last ten years, I attach a table showing the number of depositors, amounts deposited, the average amount to each depositor, as well as the proportion of deposits to each depositor.

Year		Population.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Average Sum deposited to each Depositor.	Proportion of Depositors to Population.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1857	-	305,847	11,269	638,480 11 0	£ s. d. 56 13 2	1 in 27
1858	-	342,062	11,321	579,931 17 6	51 4 6	1 ,, 30
1859	-	336,572	11,918	568,187 19 3	47 13 4	1 ,, 28
1860	-	348,546	12,027	557,196 14 0	46 6 6	1 ,, 29
1861	-	358,278	13,282	615,408 17 1	46 6 8	1 ,, 26
1862	-	367,495	14,956	716,381 16 6	47 17 11	1 ,, 24
1863	-	378,934	16,332	767,947 13 1	47 0 5	1 ,, 23
1864	-	392,589	16,959	766,746 12 10	45 4 2	1 ,, 23
1865	-	411,388	17,472	744,277 12 1	42 11 11	1 ,, 23
1866	-	431,414	17,576	707,815 3 2	40 5 5	1 ,, 24

Comparing 1866 with 1865, we find a reduction in the deposits to each depositor of 21. 6s. 6d., and the ratio of the depositors to the population has decreased from 1 in 23 to 1 in 24.

Five per cent. was the rate of interest paid to depositors up to 1001.; beyond this Rate of amount no interest is allowed.

Seven per cent. was the amount charged on loans on mortgage.

The next return relates to the working of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint, Branch Royal which was established here on the 14th May 1865.

Charge on loans Mint.

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NEW SOUTH WALES. The amount of gold dust or bullion received for coinage shows a large increase on the receipts of the previous year, as will be gathered from the following table:—

Receipt of gold.

Colonies from which the gold came.

N 461				1865.				1866.		
Name of Colon	у.		Quantity.	Value			Quantity.	Value	е.	
			Ozs.	£	s.	d.	Ozs.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales		-	300,277 · 57	1,153,215	8	0	269,239 · 71	1,035,513	0	
Victoria		-	82,413.25	337,575	5	5	152,523 · 42	627,831	12	10
New Zealand -	-	-	186,778 · 94	747,918	7	7	290,991 · 98	1,172,307	9	5
Queensland -	-		26,578 · 82	102,924	13	1	20,713 · 12	77,813	12	8
Tasmania	-		_	· -			1,179.31	4,504	15	7
Coin	-	-	2,558 · 16	9,768	6	9	4,715 · 39	17,952	17	0
Total	-		598,606 · 74	2,351,402	0	10	739,362 · 93	2,935,923	6	9
			Inc	rease -		_	140,756 · 19	584,521	6	11

It will be observed that the produce of New South Wales considerably declined, but the quantity forwarded from the neighbouring Colonies made the total receipts for the year very much larger than the previous year.

Coin issued.

The following was the issue of Coin:

			Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Total Value.
1865 1866		-	2,130,500 2,911,000	282,000	£ 2,271,500 2,911,000
	Increase Decrease	*	780,500	282,000	639,500

Bullion issued.

In bullion:-

		-			Weight.	Value.
In	bullion	1:-			ozs.	£
1865	-			-	21,913	88.061
1866		-	a •	-	11,113	44,732
	Decr	ease			10,800	43,329

The increase in the value of the coin and bullion issued, compared with 1865, was 596,1711.

The revenue of the Mint was-

	1866.	1865.
	£	£
From New South Wales gold -	11,785	14,033
From Victorian gold From New Zealand, &c., &c.,	3,423	2,040
gold	9,803	7,737
Total	25,011	23,810
Increase	£1,	201

Since the opening of the Mint, there has been received for coinage 5,584,669 ozs. of gold, of the value of 21,864,668l., and there has been issued—

In coin - - - £20,328,000 In bullion - - - 1,528,574

Making a total of - - 21,856,574

The revenue derived for the same period was 242,240l.

Public Accounts.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The following statement of receipts on account of the Consolidated Revenue Fund in the years 1865 and 1866 has been taken from the Colonial Treasurer's printed abstracts:-

		186	5.	186	66.	Increase.	Decrease.
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ 8.
Customs	-	636,102	7 1	828,710	4 10	192,607 17 9	_
Outy on refined sugar and molasses	-	15,763	6 8		0 0		2,933 6
Outy on spirits distilled in the Colony -	-	22,677	2 7	22,053			623 9
dold revenue	-	30,876	3 2	27,410			3,465 4 1
Mint receipts		23,679		25,011		1,331 2 3	0,100 1 1
and revenue		532,027		547,138		15,110 12 3	
Assessment on sheep under Scab Act -		002,021	10 0		4 8	11,968 4 8	
Ostage		70,984	19 3	77,067		6,082 14 6	
commission on money orders	-	1,438		1,993		555 4 6	THE RESERVE
icences							Control of the last of the las
rees of office		77,905		78,870			THE REAL PROPERTY.
		26,117		26,989	7 8	871 17 7	400.10
ees on inspection of cattle	-	485		1	1 0	-	432 12
ines and forfeitures		200	0 4	5,239			1,367 0
tents (exclusive of land)	-	28,922	5 10	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	9 8	2,884 3 10	
Railways	-	163,349		176,246	0 7	12,896 2 4	-
lectric telegraph receipts	-	30,443		33,914		3,470 14 7	-
ilotage	-	12,507		15,301		2,794 3 0	THE THE PARTY OF
Iarbour dues	-		5 6	1,990		407 9 4	
ees on certificates of competency to maste vessels.	rs of	580	0 0	520	0 0		60 0
'onnage dues	-	4,172	10 6	5,405	16 0	1,233 5 6	_
nterest on city debentures	-	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	10 cm - 10 - 10 cm	-
tamps	100	33,700	15 1	65,870	15 5	32,170 0 4	_
ates under the Chinese Immigrants Regulation Restriction Act of 1861.	n and		0 0	10			220 0
Iiscellaneous receipts	-	17,241	5 2	31,677	6 0	4,436 10	_
depayments to the credit of votes - 11,952l. 5	s. 1d.						
ess—Amount of repayments on		100					
account of disbursements in the				1			
year 1865, deducted from the		20.70					
expenditure 3,886l. 16	s. 1d.	Civil Deal		-	THE P.		8,065 9
		8,065	9 0				
						ALL LAND IN	BELLEVILLE IN
		1,755,461	18 4	Table 1			
RECEIPTS IN AID OF THE CONSOLIDATED REV	ENTIE	2,,00,201					
Fund—	ENOIS						The state of the s
		A STATE OF THE STA					
Proceeds of Treasury bills issued under 27		128,306	10 0	74,000	0 0	-	54,306 10
No. 8, and applied in payment of service	es of			No.		The state of the state of	
1863 and previous years.							
Amount deposited in the Treasury by the sa	vings'	15,700	0 0	_	CLED Y	_	15,700 0
bank of New South Wales, for six mont	hs, at						
6 per cent. per annum.		- 4		15000			
Proceeds of debentures issued under 29	Vict	_		495,344	10 0	495,344 10 0	_
No. 4, on account of the deficit of 186-	4 and			100,011		100,000	The state of the state of
previous years.				1 1 3 5			
							There's
EMPORARY LOANS—							
From the Mutual Provident Society 100	0007	1		The second second		A STATE OF THE STA	1000
From the Savings' Bank of New South	,000.			200,000	0 0	200,000 0 0	
	,000%			200,000	0 0	200,000 0 0	
11 ales = = = = = 100	,0001.)		1 1 1 1 1 1			
Total		1 000 400	0 1	0 00F 400	10 =	005 100 15 0	07 170 10
Total	-	1,899,468	8 4	2,807,423	13 7	995,128 17 9	87,173 12
		4 4 4				12. 1	

The disbursements were-

General Head	of Serv	ice.			186	55.		186	66.		Increas	e.	Decrea	se,
					æ	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£ s	. d.	£	8.
Schedules to Imperial Act 18			cap.	54 -	54,224	1	4	56,297	0	8	2,072 1	9 4	-	
Supplements to Schedules A	and B	-	-	-	4,971	5	5	6,521	0	3	1,549 1	4 10	\	
	-	-	-	-	17,607	8	9	17,809	9	5	202	0 8	_	
	-		-	-	449,479	5	6	448,182	7	7	_		1,296 1	7 1
Administration of justice	1	-	-		56,948	9	11	95,707	18	10	38,759	8 11	_	
Treasurer and Secretary for	finance	and	trade	-	288,842	10	3	268,181	15	6			20,660 1	4
Secretary for lands -	-	-	-	-1-	213,244	7	9	192,517	15	5	_		20,726 1	2
Secretary for public works	-	-	-	-	312,395	0	10	326,526	19	6	14,131 1	8 8	_	
The Postmaster-General		-	-	-	-	-		85,270	6	8	85,270	6 8	_	
Special appropriations		-	-	-	337,094	8	5	391,606	13	1	54,512	4 8		
Other payments out of the co	nsolidat	ted re	evenue	fund				212,199	2	1	212,199	2 1	_	
		Tota	1 -		1,734,806	18	2	2,100,820	9	0	408,697 1	5 10	42,684	5

^{*} Included in 1865, under Head Treasurer and Secretary for Finance and Trade.

The receipts for the year 1866 were at the rate of 6l. 13s. 9d. per head of the pulation, and the disbursements were 5l. 0s. 1d. per head.

20044. 20044.

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

Loans.

The Public Debt on the 31st December 1865, amounted to 5,749,630l. which sum has been augmented by the addition of 1,015,800l., making the debt in 1866 amount £6,765,430

Of which there was paid off 347,400

Leaving outstanding on 31st December 1866 6,418,030

Interest payable.

The annual interest on the total loan outstanding for each service on the 31st December 1866, amounts to 324,210l. 9s. 4d., or at the rate of 15s. 5d. per head of the population.

Railways.

Passenger traffic.

The number of passengers conveyed by the different lines of railway shows a large falling off compared with the return of 1865.

Northern Line.

On the Northern Line the number fell from 267,032 to 233,824—a decrease of 33,208, or 12 per cent.

Southern Line.

On the Southern Line the numbers fell from 380,775 to 340,496—a falling off of 40,279, or $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Western Line.

On the Western Line the numbers decreased from 80,161 to 70,532—the deficiency

being 9,629, or 12 per cent. Also on the Richmond Line from 23,618 to 23,477—the decrease being 141, or a

trifle over ½ per cent.

Total on all

The total number of passengers conveyed by rail on all the lines decreased from 751,587 in 1865, to 668,330 in 1866—the difference being 83,257, or 11.21 per cent.

Amount received for coaching.

The total amount received for coaching was 78,300l., against 80,319l. in 1865—the decrease being 5,019l., or 6 per cent.

Northern Line.

The receipts on the Northern Line of railway amounted to 21,942l., against 22,620l.

the year before—the decrease being 678l., or 3 per cent. On the Southern Line the receipts were 40,462l., against 43,405l. in 1865; showing

a decrease of 2,742l, or $6\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. The Western Line shows a decrease of 1,079l., or 8 per cent., viz.:—in 1865 13,220l.,

and in 1866 12,141l.

The Receipts on the Richmond Line fell from 4,073l. in 1865, to 3,753l. in 1866—

being a decrease of 3201., or nearly 8 per cent. The amount received for goods and other receipts was as follows:-

	Railways.				Amount for Goods.	Rents and Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total.
Northern Line :					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865			-	-	30,317 15 5	7,784 7 6	38,102 2 11
1866	-	-	-	-	34,788 10 8	5,256 7 6	40,044 18 2
	Increase			-	4,470 15 3		1,942 15 3
	Decrease	-		-		2,528 0 0	_
Southern Line :-							
1865		- 1	17-70	-	31,469 4 5	1,664 9 5	33,133 13 10
1866	-			-	34,526 3 7	1,904 17 4	36,431 0 11
	Increase			-	3,056 19 2	240 7 11	3,297 7 1
Western Line:-							
1865	-		-	-	9,278 2 1	101 14 11	9,379 17 0
1866		*.	-	-	11,435 0 5	82 18 11	11,517 19 4
	Increase			-	2,156 18 4		2,138 2 4
	Decrease	-	-	-	-	18 16 0	-
Richmond Line :-				14 180			
1865		-		-	1,983 6 5	113 6 0	2,096 12 5
1866		-		-	2,149 6 2	90 19 6	2,240 5 8
	Increase			-	165 19 9		143 13 3
	Decrease		-	-	-	22 6 6	
Total of all Lines :-							
1865			-	-	73,048 8 4	9,663 17 10	82,712 6. 2
1866	1 - Jan 11 - 1	• 7		-	82,899 0 10	7,335 3 3	90,234 4 1
	Increase			-	9,850 12 6		7,521 17 11
	Decrease	-	-	-		2,328 14 7	-

Richmond Line.

lines.

Southern Line.

Western Line.

Richmond Line.

Goods traffic and other receipts.

The receipts from all sources were as follows:--

NEW SOUTH ES.

				Amount r	eceived.				
_		Coac	hing.	Rents	, &c.	Go	ods.	T	otal.
		1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.	1865	1866.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Northern Line -	-	22,620	21,942	7,784	5,256	30,318	34,789	60,722	61,987
Southern ,, -	-	43,406	40,463	1,664	1,905	31,469	34,526	76,539	76,894
Western ,,	-	13,220	12,141	102	83	9,278	11,435	22,600	23,659
Richmond, -	-	4,074	3,754	113	91	1,984	2,149	6,171	5,994
Totals -	-	83,320	78,300	9,663	7,335	73,049	82,899	166,032	168,534

The total receipts:

Total Receipts.

On the Northern Line increased over 2 per cent.

On the Southern Line barely $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. On the Western Line nearly $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

On the Richmond Line they have decreased over $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

The working expenses have diminished on all the lines, with the exception of the Working expenditure. Northern, as shown as follows:-

	Northern.	Southern.	Western.	Richmond.
1865 - 1866 -	£ 37,834 39,853	£ 56,021 53,870	£ 7,787 6,794	£ 7,284 5,820
Increase Decrease	$2,019, \text{ or } 5\frac{1}{3} \text{ per cent.}$	2,151, or 3 ³ / ₄ per cent.	993, or 12 ³ / ₄ per cent.	1,464, or 20 per cent.

Electric Telegraph.

The number of electric telegraph stations in the Colony increased from 55 in 1865 Number to 63 in 1866, and the length of wire shows an extension of 722 miles—namely, 3,346 miles in 1866, against 2,624 miles in 1865.

The number of telegrams increased from 138,785 in 1865, to 143,523 in 1866.

Number of

The amount received for telegrams shows an advance of 929l. compared with 1865; Receipts. it being 29,769l. in 1865, against 30,698l.* in 1866.

The construction of the various lines of telegraph has cost the country up to the Cost of present time the sum of 153,211l., or an average of 45l. 9s. 9d. per mile.

Construction.

Money Orders.

The experience of this Colony has been similar to that of every other community where this most valuable and convenient method of transmitting money has been established; for the increase in the number of offices established and the amount of business done, proves how much the accommodation is appreciated, and what a public benefit has resulted.

The following table will give a comparative statement of the operations of this branch

for the past three years.

Orders issued d paid.

	Year.		No. of Offices.	No. of Orders issued.	Amount.	No. of Orders paid.	Amount.	and
1864				21,905	£ s. d. 105,680 18 1	16,691	£ s. d. 80,040 1 5	
1865		-	86	28,444	129,552 6 6	23,558	112,669 15 0	
1866		9-	112	41,974	198,248 0 0	35,394	168,828 0 0	

The above shows that the business transacted has been nearly doubled in three years; and it is satisfactory to learn that the expense of maintaining this department is now met by the income derived.

Post Offices, Letters, &c.

The Report furnished by the Postmaster-General will give full details of the working Post Offices The only notice it requires here is a summary of the Table No. 132, &c. of this institution.

^{*} The total amount received was 32,2901., which includes 1,4041., balance of intercolonial accounts, and 1871. due from guarantees of conditional lines.

WALES.

Expenditure,

NEW South from which it will appear that the number of post offices has increased from 435 in 1865, to 454 in 1866, and that the Revenue has increased from 70,984l. 19s. 3d. in 1865, to 79,082l. 11s. 5d. in 1866, being an increase of 8,097l. 12s. 2d. in the year. The expenditure for the year 1866 is 86,505l. 9s. 11d., against 83,658l. 14s. 5d. in 1865, showing an increase of 2,846l. 15s. 6d. This increase in expense is partly accounted for by the increase of the extent of postal route in the Colony, which was 11,343 miles in 1865, and 11,883 miles in 1866, showing an expansion of 540 miles during the year. The number of miles travelled during 1865 was 2,521,212, and in 1866 was 2,556,700, showing an increase of 35,488 miles in the number travelled in 1865.

Letters, & c., posted.

The Postmaster General deprecates the institution of comparisons between the numbers of letters and newspapers posted during the year 1866 and 1865, as there appears on the face of the returns a diminution in the number for the last year. This apparent decrease arises from the circumstance that the returns have been more accurately compiled for the year 1866, as there was reason to believe that in former years the numbers were much overstated. But the more reliable returns now submitted show a very large amount of correspondence for a community of 400,000 souls. number of letters posted for 1866 was 6,106,074, and newspapers was 3,967,313. Although these numbers are smaller than for the year 1865, there was, as has been stated, an increase in the Revenue of 8,097l. 12s. 2d., which is sufficient to show that former returns must have been over-estimated.

PART VII.

Miscellaneous .- Public Works.

The expenditure on Public Works and buildings, during the year 1866, was 753,794l. 5s. 11d., divided as follows:-

,, 0 200 000 2200,							£		d.	
Under the supervision	of the	Railway	Departi	nent	-		494,165			
Electric telegraph		-	-	-	•		6,650			
Roads -	-		-	-	-	-	80,740	15	8	
Harbours, &c.	-		-	- 3	-	-	52,814	5	3	
Colonial Architect		-	-			-	52,147	17	0	
Fitzrov Dock -			-		4		4,157	12	4	
Minor roads and bridg	res und	ler Public	Works	Depart	ment	-	14,294	19	0	
Ditto	und	ler Lands	Depart	ment	-	-	48,822	10	1	
						£	2753,794	5	11	

The above expenditure includes the amount applied from the Loan Fund. The expenditure for furniture for the several Departments, &c. amounted to 3,0271. 13s.

Meteorology.

The following table will afford a view of the year's observations, taken at stations in their assumed positions:-

	Newcastle.	Sydney.	Deniliquin.	Albury.	Kiandra.	Armidale
Height above the mean sea level (feet)	18	155	410	572	4,640	3,278
Distance from the coast (miles)	1	5	280	170	90	80
Temperature (in the shade, at 9 a.m.)	64.0	63.1	60.4	61.7		64.0
Highest temperature (in the shade for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m.).	97.8	101.0	111.1	-	83.8	-
Lowest temperature (ditto)	38.2	39.6	_	26.8	6.2	-
Mean diurnal range of temperature (ditto)	15.6	14.1	_		29.8	-
Mean of maximum and minimum temperature (do.)	64.1	63.3	_	_	43.8	-
Mean height of barometer (at 9 a.m., corrected to	30.088	30.079	30.102	30.074	30.102	30.051
32° Fahrenheit and mean sea level).						
Mean amount of humidity (0·100) at 9 a.m.	71.7	73.3	65.5	71.4		-
Rainfall (inches) -	32.5	36.8	3.5	30.3	46.6	39.6
Rainy days	92	149	81	56	55	56
Prevailing direction of the wind at 9 a.m.	W.N.W.	W.	W.	N.E.	N.W.	W.
Mean amount of cloudy sky (0·10) at 9 a.m.	4.6	5.1	3.0	4.3	5.6	4.1
Mean maximum temperature in the sun (for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m.).	-	110.3	_		_	-
Mean minimum temperature on the grass (ditto) -		51.3		-	_	-
Amount of evaporation (inches) -		46.206	_	-	-	
Mean amount of ozone (0·10) for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m.	E	5.2	-	-	-	-

Mortgages.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Comparing the two quinquennial periods 1857 to 1861, and 1862 to 1866, we find that the number and amount lent upon mortgage of real estate have decreased from 6,014 in number, and 3,968,833 in amount, in the former period, to 5,331 in number, to the amount of 3,341,620*l*., in the latter period. The greatest demand for money appears to have been in the year 1860, when the mortgages reached nearly a million sterling. The least demand for money was in 1864, when mortgages were effected to the amount of 628,426*l*. only.

Real estate.

The discharges on mortgages of land, for the period 1862 to 1866, amounted to Discharges. nearly two millions of pounds sterling. The registrations are appended:—

			M	lortgages.	1)	Discharges.				
			No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.				
				£	12.57	£				
862	-		1,103	682,694	495	371,983				
1863	-	-	1,009	714,501	486	391,279				
1864	-	-	964	628,426	581	418,527				
1865	-	-	1,048	634,017	592	386,155				
1866	-	-	1,207	681,982	600	344,416				
	Total	_	5,331	3,341,620	2,754	1,912,360				

Liens on Wool and Mortgages on Live Stock.

The liens on wool in 1866 amounted to 316,382l. This is considerably in excess of Liens on wool. the sum registered in any year during the last decade. It is not the case with the mortgages on live stock; for the amount lent fell from 2,037,463l. in 1865, to 1,285,693l. in 1866.

To afford some idea of the amount of capital invested in pastoral pursuits, the Mortgages on dealings, so far as the documents in the office will admit, are appended for the last five

years.

			Liens on Wool.	Mortgages on Live Stock.	
			£	£	
1862		-	87,488	1,312,245	
1863			220,450	1,503,413	
1864		-	250,218	1,116,709	
1865	- 7	••	274,521	2,037,463	
1866		-	316,382	1,285,693	
	Total	-	1,149,059	7,255,523	
	Together	-	£8,40	4,582	

The discharges of mortgages on live stock during the above period came to Discharges. 3,898,959l. This amount leaves an undischarged balance of 3,356,564l., but to what extent this amount may have been reduced by unregistered discharges there are no means of ascertaining.

Liens on Growing Crops.

Since the operation of the Act in 1863, the number and amount of liens on growing crops show a gradual increase in each successive year as follows:—

		Number.	Amount.
			£
1863		72	6,399
1864	-	105	8,057
1855	-	112	9,134
1866		146	12,652

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Real Property Act.

By way of illustrating the working of this Act, the number of applications, with the amount of fees, &c., since its introduction on the 1st January 1863, up to 31st December 1866, will be found summed up as follows:—

						Area.		
	- A		No. of Applications.	No. of Properties.	Town and Suburban.	Country.	Total.	Value.
					acres.	acres.	acres.	£
1863	-	-	340	657	730	67,183	67,913	439,278
1864		-	362	467	250	31,589	31,839	310,165
1865	-	-	434	608	651	20,271	20,922	326,168
1866			379	532	652	36,584	37,236	278,063
	Total	_	1,515	2,264	2,283	155,627	157,910	1,353,674

The land averaged 81. 11s. 5d. per acre.
The fees received were—

		Year.		and other			Assu	rand	e.	Commission	ers.	То	tal.	- A
				£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.	£ s.	d.	£	s.	d.
420	1863	T 10 14	-	411	13	0	934	5	5	394 5	0	1,740	3	5
	1864			662	6	10	762	4	4	413 10	0	1,838	1	2
1.00	1865		-	1,000	19	4	679	11	11	477 0	0	2,157	11	3
	1866	-	-	1,305	4	4	768	18	8	379 10	0	2,453	13	0
		Total		3,380	3	6	3,145	0	4	1,664 5	0	8,189	8	10

The number of Crown grants registered shows a small increase, whilst the area and value are greatly in excess of previous registrations, viz.:—

Year.		No. of Grants.	Town and Suburban.	Country.	Total.	Value.	
			acres.	acres.	acres.	£	
1863 -		268	285	31,467	31,752	36,406	1
1864 -		1,500	1,129	70,800	71,929	95,008	1
1865 -	-	2,429	1,630	59,298	60,928	77,312	
1866 -	-	2,455	1,206	112,531	113,737	139,526	
Total		6,652	4,250	274,096	278,346	348,252	

The total area of land brought under the Act, and of Crown grants registered, together, amounts to 436,256 acres, of the value of 1,701,926l.

Insolvencies.

There is a significant increase in the number of insolvencies which took place during the year, which was larger than it has been for ten years past. The number of schedules filed was 594, of which 550 were voluntary and 44 were compulsory. The increase over 1865 is 66; and, on an average, one person in every 726 surrendered his estate.

The estimated amount of liabilities was 944,016*l*., being larger by 432,426*l*. than the liabilities of the insolvent estates in 1865. The estimated assets were 539,185*l*., showing an admitted deficiency of 404,831*l*. The fees in insolvency amounted to 1,980*l*.

Publicans' Licences.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The number of licences issued to publicans shows an increase of 68 compared with 1865, viz.:—

1865 Increase	-		-	 2,041 68
	18	66 -		2,109

On an average, a licence was issued to every 201 of the population in 1865, and 204 in 1866.

The receipts from this source of revenue were-

			186	5.		186	66.	1
			£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.
	To retail fermented and spirituous liquors	-	61,414	9	2	62,822	5	8
1	To retail fermented and spirituous liquors Billiard and bagatelle licences to publicans	-	2,660	0	0	2,421	8	4
	Total -		64,074	9	2	65,243	14	0

Volunteer Corps.

The Volunteer Corps numbered, on the 31st December, 1,834 members. This is an increase on 1865 of 260.

The members were classed as follows:-

Lieutenant	-Colo	nel -		-	1
Captains	-	-			25
Subalterns	-	- (-	-	37
Staff	-	-	-	-	12
Serjeants	-	-		-	97
Buglers	-	-		-	34
Rank and	file	-		-	1,628
	Tot	al -		-	1,834

The expenditure for this service was in 1865, 3,492*l*. 7s. 7d., and in 1866, 6,270*l*. 2s. 2d.

The Volunteer Naval Brigade mustered, on 31st December, 229 officers, &c., as follows:—

Captain	commandin	g			1
Lieutena		-	4 There	-	5
Sub-Lie	utenants	-		-	5
Medical	Officer			-	1
Clerk, 8	cc	-	4 7 7 7	-	1
Warrant	and Petty	Officers	-	-	12
Cadets				-	4
A. B.'s	-	•	- 1	-	200
	Total		-		229

The expenditure for this Service was 3,943l. 18s. 5d., against 2,050l. 2s. 5d. the year before.

Lands.

The area of lands sold otherwise than conditionally was 109,177 acres, amounting to 127,609l., against 101,350 acres, which brought 135,521l. the year previous.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The quantity of land disposed of during the last two years was-

			1865.	1866.
In the settled districts—			acres.	acres.
Town lots		-	180	33
Suburban lots		-	645	415
Country lots		-	21,861	27,093
Total			22,686	27,541
in the pastoral districts—				
Town lots	-		314	270
Suburban lots -		-	866	630
Country lots	-	-	77,484	80,735
Total	13 .14		78,664	81,635
Total of settled and p	astoral dis	tricts	101,350	109,176

Average price per acre. In the town and suburban lands a falling off will be observed in the area sold, but the country lands show an increase of 7,826 acres.

The lands sold otherwise than conditionally averaged in

				£	S.	d.	
1864				1	3	8	per acre.
1865	-	-	-	-1	2	9	,,
1866		-		1	3	4	"

Price per acre paid for lands. The following table will show the average price per acre paid during the last two years for lands sold under the Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861:—

				186	5.		186	66.
			£	s.	d.	£	s	. d.
Sold at auction—Town -	-00	-	41	0	83	40	1	73
Suburban -		-	4	9	$5\frac{1}{2}$	4	2	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Country -			1	2	74	1	0	$8\frac{3}{4}$
Unconditionally sold by selection		-	1	0	5	1	0	6
Improved lots sold to owners of	improven	nents	1	3	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1	3	10
Proceeds of sales of unnecessary 1		-	3	6	$4\frac{1}{4}$	3	14	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Sold under return of water reserv	ration	-	17	18	$8\frac{1}{4}$	7	9	4
Specially sold at appraised price		VI -	1	1	6	2	12	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Reclaimed land sold at ditto -		-	1	5	114	85	18	8
Sold by pre-emption	1	-	1	0	101	1	0	3
Sold conditionally		-	1	0	0	1	0	0

Revenue from lands and gold fields. The revenue derived from lands and gold fields, for the year ending 31 December 1866, was 541,350l. 13s. 10d., recapitulated as follows:—

			£	S.	d.
-	THE CAMPBELL	-	232,621	17	7
-					
-					
-		-	8,282	3	4
			0444 076		
-		-	£541,350	13	10
				232,621 272,844 27,602 8,282	£ s 232,621 17 - 272,844 0 - 27,602 12 - 8,282 3 - £541,350 13

Balance payable for lands sold. The balance payable in 1867, for lands sold at auction, amounts to 31,114l. 19s. $1\frac{1}{4}d$.; and in 1869 there will be due for conditional purchases the sum of 268,989l.; together, 300,103l. 19s. $1\frac{1}{4}d$.

Statistical View.

The usual Statistical View of the Colony, from the earliest period down to the present time, precedes the volume.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
THEORE. JAS. JAQUES,
Registrar General.

STATISTICAL VIEW of the PROGRESS of New South Wales for the last 10 Years.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

					Sel	hools.	ts			cs,	cres p.			Live 8	stock.			
Year.	Population.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Schools.	Number of Scholurs.	Commitments for Trial.	Convictions.	Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c.	Number of Acres		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.		
1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866	305,487 342,062 **336,572 348,546 **538,278 367,495 378,934 392,589 411,388 431,412	12,501 13,802 14,415 14,233 14,681 15,434 15,679 16,881 17,283 16,950	2,902 2,992 3,295 2,945 3,222 3,326 3,314 3,480 3,578 3,462	6,596	550 653 739 798 849 925 976 1,022 1,069 1,155	29,23 33,23 32,84 34,76 37,87 42,21 46,81 48,42 53,45 59,59	36 780 40 753 37 685 74 820 11 879 10 887 27 975	415 406 405 437 514 497 590 686	174	284 295 549 745 788 859 1,768 2,084 2,132 2,389	184,51 223,28 247,54 260,78 297,57 302,18 307,08 318,85 378,25 451,22	$5\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{4}$ 18 5 $18\frac{1}{2}$ 15 14 $14\frac{1}{2}$	180,053 200,713 214,684 251,497 233,220 273,389 262,554 284,567 282,587 278,437	2,148,664 2,110,604 2,190,976 2,408,586 2,271,923 2,620,383 2,032,522 1,924,119 1,961,905	8,139,162 7,581,762 5,162,671 6,119,163 5,615,054 6,145,651 7,790,969 8,271,520 8,132,511 11,562,155	109,166 92,843 119,701 180,662 146,091 125,541 135,899 164,154 146,901 137,915		
	Coa	al raised.		Lan	d Sales.			SI	ippir	ıg.			Export	s, the Produc	ce of the Colo	ony.c		
							The District	ards.		-	vards.	Wo		Wo		Wool.		ow.
Year.	Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Amount	realised.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.		Vessels.	Tonnage.		(Quantity.)	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	(Value.)		
1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866	tons. 210,434 216,397 308,213 368,862 342,067 476,522 433,889 549,012 585,525 774,238	162,1 204,3 226,4 218,8 305,2 236,2 270,1	62 71 93 20 34 30 71 03	acres. 145,102 169,214 135,167 109,216 189,936 67,292 d 92,016 d 58,216 101,350 109,177	210 240 252 155	,316 ,594 ,988 ,211 ,719 ,240	1,100 1,141 1,250 1,424 1,327 1,493 1,494 1,849 1,912 2,099	351,41 348,98 363,12 427,83 366,23 454,83 479,82 607,16 635,88 730,35	4 1,1 1 1,5 5 1,6 6 1,7 7 1,1 8 1,1 8 2,	568 503	377,147 366,825 387,015 431,484 379,460 467,356 511,373 547,057 690,294 784,381	13 16 12 12 13 14 25 29	lbs. 7,044,201 3,553,835 5,988,016 2,809,362 2,745,891 3,482,139 4,791,849 5,827,917* 9,858,791* 6,980,685*	£ 1,275,067 1,126,486 1,458,005 1,123,699 1,396,426 1,283,818 1,262,274 2,294,615* 2,283,560* 2,830,348*	75,810	£ 82,134 53,186 37,275 28,794 60,816 104,030 31,221 100,654 122,270 51,826		
		Exports	, the P	roduce of	f the Co	olony.c				1	13		Reven	ue.	Expendi	iture.		
Year.	Oil, &c. (Value.)	(Quantity.)	old.†	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	Coal	(Value.)	Value of Total	Imports.c		Value of Total Exports.c		General.	Loans.	Ordinary.	Loans.		
1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865	£ 32,306 1,450 532 136 — — — — — —	ozs. 253,564 254,907 435,995 483,012 488,293 699,566 605,722 758,109 682,521 751,700	9 1,6 1,8 1,8 2,7 2,3 2,9 2,6	£ 83,850 94,960 98,078 76,049 90,908 15,037 61,949 52,471 47,668 24,891	ton 96,4 113,6 173,9 233,8 207,7 308,7 298,0 372,4 382,9 540,9	57 49 35 77 80 82 38 66 68	£ 45,960 89,200 132,984 183,761 160,965 245,422 220,181 212,488 214,158 300,588	6,722 6,059 7,519 6,399 9,334 8,319 10,134 10,634 9,405	9,408 9,366 7,053 9,285 1,555 4,645 9,576 5,708	4,1 4,7 5,0 5,5 7,1 6,9 * 9,0 * 9,5	£ 11,952 86,277 68,049 72,020 94,839 02,562 36,839 37,832* 63,818* 13,839*	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, e 1,	£ 185,562 379,675 522,668 319,779 448,610 628,885 550,047 693,792 938,656 833,459	£ 845,575 76,776 816,822 560,729 394,457 644,285 649,116 290,983 298,578 419,720	£ 1,104,995 1,209,796 1,425,028 1,321,724 1,540,005 1,608,810 2,064,299 1,862,245 1,760,516 f 2,125,414	£ 438,333 360,770 433,138 726,231 433,224 526,708 537,795 464,656 554,278 887,157		

a The reduction in the year 1859 was caused by the separation of Queensland from New South Wales, b The Census was taken in 1821, 2, 3, 5, 8, 33, 6; population as above.

2nd March 1841, population 189,856

2nd March 1846, 189,609

1st March 1851, 187,243

1st March 1856, 266,189

1st March 1861, 350,860

Transportation ceased in 1840.

c Exclusive of the overland traffic.
d Exclusive of lands conditionally sold under the "Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861."

Price of land in 1825, 7s. 6d. to 10s. per acre.

The minimum price of land was 5s. per acre, from 1832 to 1840; 12s. per acre, 1840-2. (20s. in Port Phillip in 1841). 20s. per acre from 1843 to present time,

Number of acres alienated to the end of 1866(exclusive of lands conditionally selected in the Old Settled Districts), about 7,983,924 acres.

In 1822, 3, 4, 5, the accounts were kept in Spanish dollars and British money; generally in Spanish dollars.

The Return of the Revenue and Expenditure previous to 1850 cannot be accurately ascertained. In addition to the above Expenditure the Imperial Government paid large sums for the maintenance of Convicts and Military.

Gold discovered in May 1851.

The Loans Expenditure previous to 1853 cannot be shown.

Includes 270,543\(\textit{L}\) proceeds of Treasury Bills, issued under the Act of Council, 27th Vict., No. 8, to cover deficit of 1863 and previous years.

The Revenue and Expenditure columns include "Church and School Lands Revenue," "Police Reward Fund," "Police Superannuation Fund," and "Superannuation Fund," 27th Vict. No. 11.

Inclusive of the overland traffic.

[†] Includes the gold received at the Mint from other Colonies, and converted into bars and coin.

QUEENS-LAND. No. 16.

QUEENSLAND.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 51.)

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,

September 12, 1867.

My LORD DUKE, I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Statistical Register, or "Blue Book," of the Colony of Queensland for the year 1866.

- 2. The Annual Report of the Registrar-General prefixed to the statistical tables is so full and yet so concise that it appears necessary for me, on the present as on former occasions, to do little more than to solicit attention to it, and especially to the tabulated statements, which will be found to exhibit a synopsis of the condition and progress of this Colony during the first seven years (1860 to 1866) of its political existence.
- 3. As I have explained in previous Despatches, the past year (1866) was a season of severe depression in Queensland and in the other Australian Colonies. This depressionthe effects of which have not yet entirely passed away—was the result partly of prolonged droughts so destructive to the welfare of the pastoral communities, partly of that overtrading and over-speculation so common in all young countries, and partly of the great financial crisis in England. Nevertheless it will be seen that the official statistics are, on the whole, of a satisfactory character. I will glance at a few of the more prominent facts and figures.
- 4. In the first place it appears that the European population of Queensland at the close of 1865 was 87,775, while at the close of 1866 it had risen, chiefly through immigration from the United Kingdom, to 96,172, an increase over the previous year at the rate of 9.57 per cent. Again, there was an increase in 1866 over 1865 of 8.38 per cent. as regards the number of horned cattle, of 10.37 per cent. as regards the number of sheep, and of 17.09 per cent. in the quantity of wool exported. These are the chief elements of wealth in a pastoral community.
- 5. The progress shown by the agricultural statistics is even more gratifying. It will be seen that during 1866 the land under cultivation increased by 69.5 per cent. Above all, cotton in 1866 shows an acreage nearly six-fold greater than in 1865; while the returns of land under sugar cultivation exhibit in the aggregate an increase of about 50 per cent. on the quantity returned in the preceding year. It is true that (as the Registrar-General observes) the figures last referred to are still small; but they deserve notice as showing the commencement and growth of industries which will, in all human probability, become hereafter of vast importance. It will be remembered that the great exportation of sures from Mauritius dates from little more than the last 20 years and exportation of sugar from Mauritius dates from little more than the last 30 years; and that during the first 60 years of the present century the exportation of cotton from America grew up from smaller beginnings than those already made in Queensland to an amount valued at forty millions sterling annually.
- 6. Again, an examination of the trade returns for the last two years shows that the exportation of goods which are the produce or the manufacture of Queensland has increased in value during 1866 at the rate of 15.73 per cent. on the similar exports of 1865. Moreover, the shipping returns of 1866, when compared with those of the preceding year, show an increase of 14.49 per cent. on the number of vessels entered inwards, and of 13.93 per cent. on the number of vessels entered outwards.
- 7. Not less gratifying than the proofs of material progress are those pages of the Statistical Register which show the progress of education. It will be seen that in 1866 the number of Government schools increased from 31 to 39; while the aggregate attendance of scholars at those schools increased at the centesimal rate of 24.38. the same year the number of private schools was also augmented at the rate of 28.57 per cent. On the whole, the education returns of 1866, when compared with those of 1865, prove that the ratio of increase during the latter year in both public and private schools, as well as in the aggregate number of scholars attending them, is considerably larger

than the ratio of increase in the population. This fact goes far to show that the population of Queensland, which here, as in all other new countries, was at first somewhat erratic, is now rapidly assuming a more settled character.

QUEENS-LAND.

8. It will be remembered that Queensland was erected into a separate Colony on my arrival as the first Governor on December 10, 1859. The synopsis of the statistics of the Register transmitted herewith shows the centesimal increase in the principal elements of progress during the six years since 1860 (the first year of the political existence of this community) to have been at the following rates,—

Population					282.45	per cent.
Revenue	217.		-		245.86	72
Imports	-		-	-	232.59	,,
Exports			1-	-	161.04	"
Land under cu	ltivatio	n -	-	-	628.69	"
Horses	-		-		122.56	55
Horned cattle			4 (-	112.39	59
Sheep -	-		-		129.85	"
Shipping { Tor	nage i	nwards	-		332.18	23
Simpping	,, (outwards	-	-	396.14	"
Schools-			- 10	-	108.06	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Number of sch	olars		-	_	112.62	99
						"

9. To sum up: since the establishment of Queensland in December 1859, the European population has increased from less than 25,000 to nearly 100,000, that is, it has been augmented nearly four-fold; while the revenue and the trade of the Colony (including exports and imports) have been almost trebled. The other chief elements of prosperity have advanced in a nearly equal proportion. During the same seven years cotton and sugar have been added to the list of staple products; a line of new ports has been opened along the eastern seaboard from Keppel Bay to Cape York, a distance of 1,000 miles; and settlements have been formed around the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria, on the northern coast of the Australian Continent, and a distance of more than 1,500 miles from the seat of Government at Brisbane. Moreover, during the same period pastoral occupation has spread over the greater portion of the interior of Queensland; that is, over an additional area at least four times larger than the area of the United Kingdom. For, in 1859, the pioneer settlers had scarcely advanced beyond the Darling Downs to the west or beyond Rockhampton to the north. Now, in 1867, there are stations more than 700 miles to the west of Brisbane, and more than 800 miles to the north and north-west of Rockhampton.

10. It will, perhaps, be recollected that in the speech delivered at a recent prorogation of the Queensland Parliament I summed up the progress of this Colony during its early years in terms similar to those of the last paragraph, and that I concluded with the following words:—" These facts, derived from the official statistics, cannot fail to be "interesting and instructive to our fellow countrymen at home, while they must be to "you, as they are to me, a subject of honest pride and of devout thankfulness."

I have, &c. (Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE STATISTICAL REGISTER OF QUEENSLAND FOR THE YEAR 1866.

To the Honourable Arthur Macalister, Esq., Colonial Secretary, &c. &c.

Registrar-General's Office, Brisbane, June 10, 1867.

I have the honour to forward to you, for presentation to Parliament, "the Statistical "Register of the Colony of Queensland for the year ending the 31st December 1866," together with the following comparative tables and explanatory remarks.

Parliamentary Business.

QUEENS-

The fourth session of the second Parliament of Queensland was opened by his Excellency the Governor in person on the 10th of April 1866, and was prorogued by his Excellency in person on the 23rd of October following. During this session the Legislative Assembly sat on 63 days; the daily average length of each sitting being five hours and 43 minutes.

At page 28 of the Register is published an alphabetical register of public bills originated in each branch of the Legislature, by which it appears that the number of bills originated in the Legislative Council was six, of which four received his Excellency's assent, one was discharged from the paper, and one was not returned from the Legislative Assembly. And that in the Legislative Assembly the number of bills originated was 37, of which 22 received his Excellency's assent, and 15 were either discharged from the paper, were withdrawn, lapsed, or were not returned from the Legislative Council. Four of the above bills, having for their objects the imposition of additional taxation, the issue of additional Treasury bills, and the issue of Treasury notes, were initiated in the Legislative Assembly by messages from his Excellency the Governor.

Population.

ESTIMATED POPULATION of QUEENSLAND on the 31st December 1866.

Males.	Females.	Persons.	
57,288	38,884	96,172	

Comparing the above estimate with the estimated population of the Colony on the 31st December 1865, it appears that the addition made to the population during the year 1866 consists of 3,991 males, 4,406 females; altogether of 8,397 persons.

ESTIMATED MEAN POPULATION of the Year 1866.

Males.	Females.	Persons.	
55,292	36,681	91,973	

The centesimal increase in the population during the year 1866 is at the rate of 9.57 per cent.; males, 7.49 per cent.; females, 12.78 per cent. The female part of the population has, therefore, increased considerably faster than the male. This is probably explained by the number of males who left the Colony in the two last quarters of the year. On the 31st December 1866 there were in the Colony 67.87 females to each 100 males, whereas on the 31st December 1865 there were only 64.69 females to each 100 males.

A.

RETURN showing the Increase of the Population of Queensland during each of the Four Quarters of the Year 1866.

QUEENS-LAND.

1866.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
First Quarter. Population on the 1st January 1866 Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter - Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea, during the Quarter.	53,297 55 2,613	34,478 176 1,788	87,775 231 4,401
Population on the 31st March	55,965	36,442	92,407
Increase during the Quarter -	2,668	1,964	4,632
Second Quarter. Population on the 1st April	55,965 140 1,155	36,442 280 696	92,407 420 1,851
Population on the 30th June	57,260	37,418	94,678
Increase during the Quarter	1,295	976	2,271
Third Quarter. Population on the 1st July Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea, during the Quarter.	57,260 251 705	37,418 325 1,011	94,678 576 1,716
Population on the 30th September	58,216	38,754	96,970
Increase during the Quarter	956	1,336	2,292
Fourth Quarter. Population on the 1st October	58,216 246	38,754 292	96,970 538
TOTAL	58,462 1,174	39,046 162	97,508 1,336
Population on the 31st December 1866 -	57,288	38,884	96,172
Decrease of male population by excess of emigration over immigration by sea, during the Quarter. Increase of female population by excess of births over emigration by sea.	928	130	928 130
Decrease during the Quarter		321-21	798
Increase during the Year	3,991	4,406	8,397

A correct estimate of the distribution of the erratic population of Queensland can only be arrived at by means of a census. The following table, based on the supposition that the number of names registered from any one district in the books for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths bears always a certain rateable proportion to the population of that particular district, furnishes an idea of the distribution of our population which, I believe, will hereafter prove not to be very wide of the truth. It will be observed that the total population arrived at by this method of calculation is slightly larger than the estimate formed in the usual manner. I am not, however, prepared to admit this to be an error, for the usual manner of estimating the population takes no account of the arrivals and departures overland; and, although the Colony may during the past year have lost some few by that route, there can, I think, be no doubt that it has gained in the aggregate during the three years which have expired since the taking of the last census, on the 1st January 1864. Be this as it may, the two estimates differ so slightly in their total result as to justify the belief that neither is much in error, especially when it is borne in mind that the difference between them, of 1,218 persons in the total population on the 31st December 1866, is the accumulated difference of three years, each calculation going back to, and being based upon, the information supplied by the last census.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

QUEENS-LAND:

В.

Registratio	n Dist	ricts.		Estimated Population on the 31st December 1865, deduced from centesimal proportion of names registered.	Centesimal Increase* or Diminution† in the number of names registered in each district, corrected by centesimal increase in total proportion.	Estimated Population on the 31st December 1866 deduced from centesimal proportion of names registered in each district.
Brisbane -				29,637	* 2.325	30,326 · 060
Ipswich -				16,254	† 0.625	16,152 · 413
Rockhampton			-	5,618	* 8.783	6,111 · 428
Drayton -	-			7,263	*32.233	9,604.082
Warwick -		4	-	4,602	† 4.131	4,411 · 892
Maryborough				3,278	*11.258	3,647 · 037
All other districts				20,830	*30.280	27,137 · 324
Total				87,482		97,390 · 236

The following tables, lettered C. to G. inclusive, refer especially to the vital statistics of the Colony for the past and previous year, and are prepared to facilitate comparisons.

C.

Table showing the Number of Births in the Years 1865 and 1866, also the Proportion of Females to Males born in each Year.

		1865.			1866.		Total Increase* or	Increase* or Decrease†	Females born	Females born	
District.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Decrease† in the latter Year.	per cent. in the latter Year.	to every 100 Males born in 1865.	Males born in 1866.	
Banana	9	8	17	10	13	23	* 6	* 35.29	88.89	130.00	
Bowen (Kennedy) -	39	29	68	39	52	91	* 23	* 33.83	74.36	13.33	
Brisbane	705	692	1,397	796	741	1,537	*140	* 10.02	98.58	93.09	
Broad Sound	3	5	8	7	6	13	* 5	* 62.50	166.69	85.71	
Cardwell	3	1	4		5	5	* 1	* 25.00	33.33		
Carpentaria	_	_	-	1	1	2	* 2			100.00	
Cleveland Bay (Towns-	_	_	-	18	22	40	* 40	-	-	122.22	
ville). Condamine	11	10	21	11	9	20	† 1	+ 9.52	90.99	81.81	
Dalby	70	60	130	64	68	132	* 2	* 10.54	85.71	106.25	
Drayton and Toowoomba	156	145	301	217	208	425	*124	* 41.19	92.30	95.85	
Gayndah	39	48	87	61	54	115	* 28	* 32.18	123.08	88.52	
Goondiwindi	14	13	27	5	9	14	† 13	† 48.14	92.86	180.00	
Ipswich	287	277	564	299	284	583	* 19	* 30.37	96.52	94.98	
Isaacs, East				7	4	11	* 11			57.14	
Leyburn	7	7	14	18	14	32	* 18	*128.57	100.00	77.78	
Mackay	6	9	15	12	13	25	* 10	* 66.66	150.00	108.33	
Nanango	9	6	15	7	6	13	† 2	† 13.33	66.67	85.71	
North Cook (Somerset) -	1	1	2				+ 2		100.00	THE POPULATION	
Peak Downs (Clermont) -	10	12	22	20	11	31	* 9	* 40.90	120.00	55.00	
Port Curtis	27	14	41	30	20	50	* 9	* 21.95	51.85	66.67	
Princhester		i	1	5	7	12	* 11	*1,100.00		140.00	
Rockhampton	166	168	334	215	193	408	* 74	* 22.13	101.20	89.76	
Roma (Mt. Abundance) -	17	15	32	19	19	38	* 6	* 18.75	88.24	100.00	
St. George	4	10	14	9	8	17	* 3	* 21.43	250.00	88.88	
	6	2	8	11	18	29	* 21	*262.50	33.33	163.64	
Shirmenare	5	3	8	9	*8	17	* 9	*112.50	60.00	88.88	
Surat	3	0	-	5	2	7	* 7			40.00	
Tambo (Mitchell) -	10	14	24	15	15	30	* 6	* 25.00	140.00	100.00	
Tarcom	2	14	3	2	5	7	* 4	*133.33	50.00	250.00	
Warrego	85	88	173	114	74	188	* 15	* 8.67	13.51	64.91	
Warwick	90	84	174	104	95	199	* 25	* 14.36	93.38	91.35	
Wide Bay	13	15	28	7	5	12	† 16	† 57.14	115.38	71.43	
Total	1,794	1,738	3,532	2,137	1,989	4,126	*594	* 16.82	96.88	93.07	

D.

QUEENS.

TABLE showing the Number of Deaths in the Years 1865 and 1866, also the Proportion of Deaths of Females to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1866.

		1865.			1866.		Total	Increase*	Number of Deaths of	Number of Deaths of
District.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase * or Decrease † in the latter Year.	or Decrease † per cent. in the latter Year.	Females to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1865.	Females to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1866.
Banana	10	2	12	5	3	8	† 4	† 33.33	20.00	60.00
Bowen (Kennedy) -	22	12	34	31	17	48	* 14	* 41.18	54.54	54.83
Brisbane	400	348	748	538	401	939	*191	* 25.53	87.00	74.54
Broad Sound	3	3	6	7	_	7	* 1	* 16.66	100.00	74.94
Cardwell	8		8	2	A	2	† 6	* 75.00		
Carpentaria	!	-		26	9	35	* 35	73.00		34.60
Cleveland Bay (Towns-	_	_		16	9	25	* 25		-	
ville).	-			10		20	23			56.25
Condamine	1	-	1	7	5	12	* 11	*1,100.00		71.43
Dalby	17	15	32	45	20	65	* 33	*103.12	88.24	4.44
Drayton and Toowoomba	70	45	115	142	82	224	*109	* 94.78	64.29	
Gayndah	28	12	40	27	9	36	† 4	† 10.00	42.86	57.75
Goondiwindi	5	1	6	9	2	11	* 5	* 83.33		33.33
Ipswich	131	129	260	216	183	399	*139	* 53.46	20.00	22.22
Isaacs (East)		_		11	2	13	* 8	*160.00	98.47	84.72
Levburn	2	3	5	7	3	10	* 5	*100.00	150.00	18.18
Mackay	3	_	3	5		5	* 2	* 66.66	150.00	42.86
Nanango	4		4	2	1	3	4		_	
North Cook (Somerset) -	^	1	1	2	1	3	† 1 * 2	† 25.00		50.00
Peak Downs (Clermont) -	28	11	39	21	2	23	† 16	*200.00		50.00
Port Curtis	9	5	14	7	2	9	† 16	† 41.03	39.28	9.52
Princhester	4	2	6	5	2	7	* 1	† 64.29	55.55	28.57
Rockhampton	112	92	204	128	65	193	1	*110.00	50.00	40.00
Roma (Mt. Abundance) -	15	6	21	18	7	25	† 11	† 5.39	_	50.71
St. George -	10	0	10	8	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1	* 4	* 19.05	40.00	38.88
Springsure	6	6	12	19	6	14	*	* 40.00	82.14	75.00
Name of the last o	3	2	5	7	4	23	11	* 91.67	100.00	21.05
Fambo (Mitchell)	- 0	2	9	15	4	11	* 6	*120.00	66.00	57.14
Taroom -	8		10	1 555 0	2	17	17			13.33
IX7	9	1	10	12	7	19	* 9	* 90.00	40.00	58.33
37 1			10	19	1	20	* 10	*100.00	11.11	5.26
CCC 1 TO	29 42	16	45	30	26	56	* 11	* 24.44	55.17	86.66
		28	70	48	38	86	* 16	* 22.86	66.66	79.17
Woogaroo	8	4	12	10	3	13	* 1	* 8.33	50.00	30.00
Total -	987	746	1,733	1,445	916	2,361	628	26.59	75.58	62.69

E.

Table comparing the Deaths of the Year 1866 with the Births of the same Year.

District.		Deaths in 1866.	Births in 1866.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Deaths have centesimally increased faster or slower † than Births.
Banana		8	23	15		†187.50
Bowen (Kennedy)	-	48	91	43	3 1 1	† 89.58
Brisbane	-	939	1,537	598		1163.68
Broad Sound	. 1	7	13	6		† 85.71
Cardwell 1	1 -	2	5	3		1150.00
Carpentaria	-	35	2		33	* 94.29
Cleveland Bay (Townsville)	-	25	40	15		† 60.00
Condamine		12	20	8		† 66.66
Dalby	-	65	132	67		†103.08
Drayton and Toowoomba -	-	224	425	201		† 89.73
Gayndah	-	36	115	79		†219.44
Goondiwindi	-	11	14	3	The State of the S	† 27.27
Ipswich	-	399	583	184		† 46.12
Isaacs (East)	-	13	11	mercone .	2	* 15.38
Leyburn	-	10	32	22	4	†220.00
Mackay		5	25	20		†400.00
Nanango	-	3	13	10		
North Cook (Somerset) -	-	3		10	3	†333.00
Peak Downs (Clermont) -	-	23	31	8	0	+ 24.7
Port Curtis	1-1	9	50	41		† 34·7 †455·58

¹ No returns received for last quarter of 1866.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

QUEENS-

E.—continued.

District.		Deaths in 1866.	Births in 1866.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Deaths have centesimally increased faster* or slower† than Births.
Princhester	A DES	7	12	5		† 71.42
Rockhampton -	The state of	193	408	215	14-6-27	†111-39
Roma (Mount Abundance)	1	25	38	13		† 52.00
St. George -		14	17	3		† 21.43
Springsure		23	29	6		† 26.08
Surat - · · ·		11	17	6		† 54.54
Tambo (Mitchell) -		17	7	_	10	† 58.82
Taroom		19	30	11	_	† 57.89
0		20	7	_	13	* 65.00
Warwick		56	188	132	_	†235.71
Wide Bay	-	86	199	113	_	†131.39
Woogaroo	4	13	12	Constant	1	* 7.69
Total -	-	2,361	4,126	1,827	62	† 77.38

F.

TABLE showing the Number of Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age registered in the Years 1865, 1866.

		7.	1865.			1866.		Increase* or Decrease†	Increase* or Decrease† in the	Total Increase* or
District.		Below Two Years.	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.	Below Two Years.	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.	in the Deaths of Children below Two Years of Age.	Deaths of Children Two Years of Age and under Five Years.	Decrease† in the Deaths of Children below Five Years of Age.
Banana Bowen (Kennedy) - Brisbane Broad Sound - Cardwell¹ - Carpentaria - Cleveland Bay (Townsville) Condamine - Dalby - Drayton and Toowoomba¹ Gayndah - Goondiwindi - Ipswich - Isaacs (East) - Leyburn - Mackay - Nanange - North Cook (Somerset) - Peak Downs (Clermont) - Port Curtis - Princhester - Rockhampton - Roma (Mount Abundance) St. George Springsure - Surat Tambo (Mitchell) - Taroom		2 14 412 5 2 5 46 17 111 3 1 100 7 1 4 2	2 39 	2 16 451 5 2 — 6 6 65 17 140 — 3 — 11 8 2 11 115 7 1 4 — 2 2	3 17 444 ————————————————————————————————	79 79 3 1 2 17 3 28 1 1 1 1 1 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3 19 523 — 3 15 6 25 114 10 4 200 2 5 4 3 1 6 5 5 4 8 5 5 6 8 5 6 8 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	* 1 * 3 * 32 † 5 † 2 * 14 * 6 * 18 * 51 † 10 * 4 * 61 * 1 * 1 * 4 * 6 * 1 * 1 * 4 * 6 * 1 * 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 3 - 1 * 1 * 3 - 1 * 3	* 40 	* 1 * 3 * 72 † 5 † 2 * 3 * 15 * 6 * 19 * 49 * 7 * 4 * 60 * 2 * 4 * 3 * 1 † 10 * 1 * 4 * 1 * 6 * 2 * 1
Warrego Warwick Wide Bay Woogaroo		2 11 27 6	5 4 —	2 16 31 6	2 22 50 1	8 5	30 55 1	* 11 * 23 † 5	* 3	* 14 * 24 † 5
Total -	-	786	117	903	1,000	172	1,172	*214	* 55	*269

¹ No return for last quarter of 1866.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

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Table showing the Number of Marriages celebrated in each of the Years 1865 and 1866.

QUEENS-LAND.

District.		Year.	Church of England.	Church of Rome.	Presbyterian and United Presby- terian.	Wesleyan Methodist.	Primitive Methodist.	United Methodist Free Church.	Congregational.	Baptist.	Particular Baptist.	Lutheran.	Hebrew Church.	German Independent.	Registration Act.	Total in 1865.	Total in 1866.
Banana	-{	1865 1866			- 1	=	=	_	=		-		=	-	2 3	2	8
Bowen (Kennedy)	-{	1865 1866	23	15 16	14	=	=	=	3	=	-	=	=	=	8 4	40	46
Brisbane -	-{	1865 1866	68 68	100 94	103 86 .	24 21	17 12	3 2	16 16	19 5	- 8	44 53	=	=	30 29	424	394
Broad Sound -	-{	1865 1866	=	_	=	_	=	Ξ		=	=		=	=	1 3	1	- 3
Cardwell 1 -	-{	1865 1866	=	=	=	_	=		=	Ξ			_	=	1	1	=
Carpentaria (Burke)	- {	1865 1866	-	=	=	=	=	=	_	=		_	_	Ξ	=	=	=
Cleveland Bay -	-{	1865 1866	=	_	=	Ξ	=	=	-	_	=	Ξ	=	=	3 7	3	7
Condamine -	-{	1865 1866	=	=	=	=	_	=	=	=	_		_	=	4 2	4	- 2
Dalby	-{	1865 1866	3 6	3 12	1 3	= :	_	_	14 7	=	_		=	=		21	31
Drayton and Toowoom	ba {	1865 1866	14 19	27 33	14 4	9	=	=	14 18	=	-	10	=	-8	3	91	91
Gayndah -	-{	1865 1866	1 2	5	1	Ξ	_	Ξ	=	19 8	=	_	=	- 1	8	29	27
Goondiwindi -	-{	1865 1866	2 1	1		=	=	=	=	<u>-</u>	_	=	-	=	2 2	5	-3
Ipswich -	ſ	1865 1866	29 20	91 61	29 12	18 21		=	3 5	8	_	2 8	=	Ξ	16 15	194	152
Isaacs (East) -	-{	1865 1866	_	Ξ	=	=	=	_	=	=	-	=	_	=	-4	=	-4
Leyburn -	-{	1865 1866	2 2	=		_	=	Ξ	=	=	_		_	Ξ	Ξ	2	- 2
Mackay -	-{	1865 1866	=	-4		· I	=	=		=	=	_	_	Ξ.	11 8	11	12
Nanango -	-{	1865 1866	_		=	=	土	=	_	Ξ	=	=	_	=	=	=	-
North Cook (Somerse	t) {	1865 1866	=	=	-	=	=	_	=	=	=	=	_	=		=	=
Peak Downs (Clermon	nt) {	1865 1866	=	-	二	=	=	=	=	=	Ξ	=	=	=	7 6	7	7
Port Curtis -	-{	1865 1866	=	=	<u>-</u> 6					=	=	=			6 12	6	18
Princhester -	-{	1865 1866	=	=	2		lava -	-	=	=	=	=	=	=	1 1	1	-
Rockhampton -	-{	1865 1866	15 19	48 53	30 38	<u>-</u>	22 22		3 12	2		=		=	1 2	121	150
Roma	-{	1865 1866	=	2 4	-	_	_	=	=	-	_	=	-	=	8 5	10	10
St. George -	-{	1865 1866	=	=	=	=	Ξ		=	=	_	=	=	=	2 3	2	3
Springsure -	-{	1865 1866	1	_	<u></u>	=	=		=	=	=	=	_	=	3 2	4	3
Surat	-{	1865 1866	_	<u>_</u>	=		=	=	=	=	=	=	_	=	2	2	-1
Tambo (Mitchell)	-{	1865 1866	_	_	=	_	=		=	11	_	_	_	=	- 2	=	
Taroom -	ſ	1865 1866	1 2	_	_	=	_	=	=	_	_	_	_	三	1	2	
Warrego -	ſ	1865 1866		=			_		F	-	1	_	_	=	1	-1	=
Warwick -	١	1865 1866	15 11	22 12	5	2 3	_	_	-		-		=	=	1 4	45	36
Wide Bay -	١	1865 1866	7 9	11 12	7	8 15	=	=	_	7 12		_	_		2 3	42	51
Woogaroo -	١	1865 1866	_	_	=			=	3		-	_			=	3	=
Total		110	_	320	204	61	39 ~	3	56	53	-	56		- 91	124	1,074	

¹ No return for last quarter of 1866.

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QUEENS-LAND. As regards the registered births of each of the years 1865 and 1866, the respective numbers are: in 1865, 3,532; in 1866, 4,126; the increase during the latter year being in number 594, and the centesimal ratio of increase 16.82.

The respective numbers of the registered deaths of each of those years are: in 1865, 1,733; in 1866, 2,361; the increase in the latter year being in number 628, and the centesimal ratio of increase 36.24.

Comparing the two above ratios of increase with the centesimal increase in the population during the same year 1866, it appears that the increase in births is greater by 7.25 per cent., but that deaths exceed the centesimal increase in the population in the far greater ratio of 26.67 per cent.

In regard to the registered deaths of children, their respective numbers are in the year 1865, below two years of age, 786; two years and under five years of age, 117; total below five years of age, 903; in the year 1866 the respective numbers were 1,000 below two years of age, 172 two and under five, 1,172 below five years of age; the numerical increase being, below two years of age, 214; two and under five years of age, 55; and below five years of age, 269.

The increase above pointed out as having taken place during the past year in the deaths of children is very large and far exceeds its due proportion to the increase in the population. In the case of deaths of children below two years of age, their centesimal increase exceeds the centesimal increase in the population by 17.66 per cent.; of deaths of children of two years and under five years of age in the ratio of 37.44 per cent.; and of deaths of all children under five years of age, the excess is in the ratio of 20.22 per cent.

The large mortality of the past year is by no means confined to children, but seems to have equally affected all ages; for, deducting from the total recorded deaths of all ages the number of deaths of children below five years of age, the remainder shows that the deaths of the last year of persons of five years and upwards of age exceed the centesimal increase in the population by no less than 33.68 per cent.

As a necessary result of the above large mortality it follows, in spite of the large number of births recorded, that the centesimal ratio of increase in the population derived from the registered births and deaths is smaller last year than usual, the respective rates for the last three years being, 1864, 2.33 per cent.; 1865, 2.39 per cent.; 1866, 2.01 per cent.

The last of the preceding tables, lettered G, records the marriages celebrated in each of the years 1865 and 1866. It will be observed that they have during the past year not only not kept pace with the increasing population, but that they show an absolute, although small diminution in their number of 7. The only religious denominations which show any noteworthy increase are the Church of England, the Wesleyan Methodists, and the Lutheran; and the increase they show is more than counterbalanced by the small number celebrated by the Church of Rome, the Presbyterians, and the Baptists. The number of marriages legalized under the Registration Act has slightly increased.

Immigration.

The number of immigrants from Europe who landed in this Colony during the year 1866 was smaller than in the previous year. The following (Table H.) is an abstract from the Immigration Returns published at pages 97 and 98 of the Register, and gives the total number of arrivals during the past year at 9,846 persons:—

H.

Description of Ships.	No. of Ships	No. of Persons Landed.	Equal to Statute Adults.	7
Black Ball Ships German Ships Ships chartered by Emigration Commissioners Short Ships	- 7 - 4 - 4 - 2	7,381 1,304 1,157 4	$6,361 \\ 1,091\frac{1}{2} \\ 1,085\frac{1}{2} \\ 4$	
Total -	- 27	9,846	8,542	J. K

The mortality on board the above ships was as follows:-

QUEENS-

Description of Ships,		No. of Deaths.	Centesimal Proportion of Deaths to Number Em- barked.	Remarks.
Black Ball Ships	-	205	2.78	In addition to the deaths on board
German Ships	-	78	5.98	ship, 36 deaths occurred while in quarantine, not included in this Return.
Ships chartered by Emigration Commissioners		4	0.34	this iteturn.
Short Ships	-			
Total -	-	287	2.91	

The value of land orders issued during the year 1866 is:-

				200	MARKAGEMENT PROGRAMMENT IS	PRODUCTION	BINCHO'S
		Т	otal -	-	£145,669	10	0
Transferable	-		C		105,844	10	0
Non-transferable	- 1				£ 39,825	s. O	<i>d</i> . 0

It appears by returns compiled by the Customs authorities that the increase to the population, arising last year from excess of arrivals over departures by sea, was 6,632 persons; and as the above immigration returns show an European immigration of 9,846, it follows that during that period the Colony lost, by intercolonial arrivals and departures, 3,214 persons from its population.

Education.

A return of primary schools under the supervision of the Board of General Education, for the year ending 31st December 1866, is published at folio 119 of the Register, from which, "comparing it with the return for the year 1865," it appears that the number of schools has increased from 31 to 39, and that the aggregate attendance of scholars has increased from 6,383 to 7,939, being at the centesimal rate of 24·38. The expenditure for salaries and rent has increased from 6,598l. 9s. 9d. to 7,690l. 17s. 6d., being at the centesimal rate of 16·55. It follows therefore that the expenditure, in proportion to the aggregate attendance of scholars, is smaller in the year 1866 than in the preceding year; and also that the attendance of pupils bears, in the year 1866, a slightly larger relative proportion to the population than in the year 1865.

As regards the return of private schools, published in the Register at folio 120, it seems, on comparison with the return for 1865, that a considerable increase has occurred in their numbers and in the number of pupils attending them. The relative number of schools is 70 in 1865, 90 in 1866—the increase being at the rate of 28.57 per cent. Of scholars the number is 2,708 in 1865, 3,016 in 1866—the increase being at the rate of 11.40 per cent. This return also shows that the ratio of increase both in the number of private schools as well as in the aggregate number of scholars attending them, is larger than the rate of increase of the population.

Crime.

The following three tables, lettered J, K, L, are summaries of returns of criminal trials and convictions before the Central Criminal Court holden at Brisbane, and the circuit courts of the Colony; (2nd) of trials and convictions before the district courts of the Colony; (3rd) the criminal business of the courts of petty sessions; further details being given at pages 75, 78, and 79 of the Register.

QUEENS-

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CENTRAL CRIMINAL and CIRCUIT COURTS, 1866.

Offences.			Brisbane.	Ipswich.	Too- woomba.	Mary- borough.	Rock- hampton.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
Murder -	•	-	1	_	1	_	1	2	-	2
Other Felonies	-5		21	19	31	8	16	28	67	95
Misdemeanors -	•	V-	1	3	2	-	5	2	9	11
Total			23	22	33	8	22	32	76	108

K.

DISTRICT COURTS, 1866.

Offences.	Metropolitan District,	Northern District.	Western District.	Remanded or Discharged.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Total Tried
Felonies	26	26	30	5	31	46	82
Misdemeanors	33	32	35	6	38	56	100
Total	59	58	65	11	69	102	182

L.

COURTS of PETTY SESSIONS, 1866.

Offences.			Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.	Discharged.	Total.
Against person	-	- 4	426	54	238	134	426
Against property			763	218	238	307	763
Against Merchant Seamen's Act	4	-	209	53 <u>-</u> 453	179	30	209
Against Master and Servants Act			145	S WA	101	44	145
Drunkenness	10	-	. 2,283		1,758	525	2,283
Vagrancy	•		320	1	255	64	320
All other offences	-		437	22	278	137	437
Total	-		4,583	295	3,047	1,241	4,583

Comparing the above with the crime tables of the year 1865, it will be observed that the total number of persons taken into custody by the courts of petty sessions has diminished somewhat in the latter year, the principal diminution being under the heads of drunkenness and vagrancy. In the year 1863 the proportion of persons taken into custody by the police and dealt with by the courts of petty sessions was 5.44 to each 100 persons in the Colony; in the year 1864 the proportion was 5.73 to each 100 persons; in 1865 the proportion was 5.79; and in the year 1866 it was 4.77, showing a marked diminution in the number taken into custody. On the other hand, the number of offences tried before the Central Criminal, circuit, and district courts has considerably increased. In 1865 the total number tried before the superior courts of the Colony was 136, of

whom 99 were convicted; in the year 1866 the number tried was 290, of whom 178 were convicted, the number of convictions being nearly twice as great in the latter as in the former year.

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Out of 4,583 persons taken into custody by the police during the year 1866, it will be observed that the large number of 3,609 could both read and write, that 290 could read but not write, and that 684 could neither read or write; the centesimal proportions being of those who can both read and write 78.75, of those who can read but not write 6.33, and of those who can neither read nor write 14.92 per cent. of the total number taken into custody.

Banks. - Government Savings Bank.

Full returns of the business of this establishment for the year 1866, being the second year of its existence, are published in the Register, at pages 80, 81, and 82.

The benefits and advantages afforded by this bank have, during the course of the two years of its existence, been extended to most of the towns of the Colony, by the establishment of branch offices, and have been largely availed of by the public. On the 31st December 1865 there stood in the books of the bank the sum of 56,582l. 2s. 9d., to the credit of 1,803 depositors; on the 31st December 1866 this sum had increased to 86,759l. 1s. 6d., and was to the credit of 2,484 depositors. This is a very rapid increase, and if reference be had to the great scarcity and high value of money during, at any rate, the greater part of last year, the amount deposited must, in proportion to the population of the Colony, be considered unusually large. The number of depositors has increased at the rate of 37.77 per cent., and the amount deposited at the rate of 53.33 per cent. on the respective number and amount of the year 1865.

Joint Stock Banks.

The following table gives the aggregate banking transactions of the several private banks carrying on business in the Colony, for each quarter of each year since the 1st of January 1860. Looking to the last quarter of each year, it will be seen that notes in circulation, bills in circulation, and discounts have all diminished greatly since the corresponding quarter of the previous year—notes at the rate of 43·05, bills at the rate of 111·10, and discounts at the rate of 6·12 per cent.; whilst on the other hand coin and bullion have increased, the former at the rate 13·27, and the latter at the rate of 18·19 per cent. Deposits have diminished at the rate of 2·71 per cent.; but inasmuch as under this heading are included balances of accounts current not bearing interest, as well as fixed deposits bearing interest, the information derived therefrom is not of much value. To give their full value to the above changes it must be borne in mind that the population of the Colony has during the same space of time increased at the rate of 9·57 per cent.

M.

Table comparing the aggregate Liabilities and Assets of the Colonial Banking Establishments at the Termination of each Quarter of the Years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866.

			LIABILIȚII	ES.			ASSETS.									
Quarters of the Year.	Year.	Notes in Circulation.	Bills in Circulation.	Balances due to other Banks.	Deposits.	Total Liabilities.	Coin.	Bullion.	Landed Property.	Notes and Bills of other Banks.	Balances due from other Banks and Branches.	Notes and Bills discounted, and all other Debts due to the Banks.	Total Assets.			
	1860	£ s. d. 32,734 16 6	£ s. d. 2,419 7 7	£ s. d. 57,161 1 5	£ s. d. 166,574 10 6	£ s. d. 258,889 16 0	£ s. d. 52,677 3 1	£ s. d. Nil.	£ s. d. 7,172 5 2	£ s. d. 4,804 18 8	£ s. d. 1,166 11 5	£ s. d. 390,250 8 9	£ s. 456,071 7			
	1861	46,975 11 8	2,889 5 2	52 18 1	310,842 6 3	360,760 1 2	66,225 3 4	51 8 6	14,235 17 7	1,290 15 10	5,374 10 8	558,895 5 5	596,073 1			
	1862	78,110 10 1	5,710 7 5	726 13 2	310,843 1 1	395,390 11 9	86,015 14 5	113 15 3	19,491 5 1	1,860 1 2	5,965 10 8	630,686 12 11	744,132 19			
First Quarter -	1863	89,165 12 10	9,971 0 0	102,634 19 3	368,348 19 11	570,120 12 0	108,455 19 4	Nil.	27,280 12 4	3,917 3 1	2,226 7 11	789,239 8 3	931,122 10			
	1864	122,916 3 4	16,126 13 3	180,371 18 10	568,318 9 7	887,733 14 5	160,162 3 4	553 18 1	36,007 8 10	8,579 12 1	7,694 16 1	1,234,653 16 10	1,447,651 15			
	1865	172,615 16 3	20,320 7 2	19,271 12 10	754,360 7 10	966,567 14 1	177,809 17 6	19,222 2 11	41,671 10 0	15,746 7 6	12,292 18 6	1,630,792 6 0	1,897,535 2			
	1866	190,165 16 6	17,631 1 2	29,777 3 10	770,102 10 6	1,007,676 12 0	193,173 16 0	6,369 14 6	54,364 12 7	10,991 18 8	24,409 13 9	2,083,256 16 8	2,372,566 12			
	1860	35,744 19 11	2,596 7 10	47 17 1	182,435 4 5	220,824 9 3	58,385 2 11	39 11 5	7,946 19 0	1,694 19 11	2,844 16 1	420,138 16 4	491,050 5			
	1861	52,143 9 2	3,451 3 7	778 10 0	267,351 16 8	323,724 19 5	71,292 1 7	43 12 6	16,363 6 10	1,672 9 8	6,901 19 2	504,818 1 4	611,091 11			
	1862	80,773 11 5	7,284 14 11	595 11 5	314,769 17 11	403,423 15 8	90,691 5 3	Nil.	21,415 9 10	2,477 7 8	4,149 1 11	652,029 8 4	770,762 13			
Second Quarter	1863	93,078 5 5	12,983 12 9	1,880 15 7	412,591 16 7	520,534 10 4	114,641 6 6	Nil.	29,197 6 9	4,248 13 11	2,334 8 8	891,873 7 11	1,042,295 3			
Jell No.	1864	129,518 19 5	20,398 15 6	16,436 18 0	675,020 15 1	841,375 8 0	206,064 15 1	1,372 14 7	35,820 17 11	7,881 2 7	11,849 3 4	1,286,689 3 2	1,549,677 16			
	1865	170,209 17 8	23,055 2 1	24,318 4 10	756,613 13 11	971,196 18 9	180,961 17 11	7,561 1 5	44,901 2 9	10,669 5 6	14,910 12 9	1,674,249 3 5	1,933,253 3			
į	1866	181,781 16 4	21,808 16 9	22,955 19 8	776,423 8 2	1,002,970 0 11	197,247 15 7	5,319 5 4	56,835 11 6	11,345 12 9	18,472 3 9	2,213,295 17 11	2,502,516 6			
	1860	39,963 3 5	7,920 3 3	18 7 8	236,337 5 0	284,238 19 4	61,289 13 10	86 8 1	11,996 18 3	1,289 11 11	4,730 17 11	472,537 11 4	551,931 1			
	1861	56,773 6 3	3,617 13 0	5,024 9 1	266,700 10 9	332,115 19 1	78,869 2 2	46 1 4	16,475 6 1	1,548 4 1	4,325 4 6	590,308 7 10	691,572 6			
	1862	79,599 11 5	18,468 15 7	941 17 11	344,542 14 3	443,552 19 2	96,166 2 4	Nil.	21,709 0 11	2,337 18 6	5,813 6 1	683,862 15 9	809,889 3			
Third Quarter -	1863	98,201 7 10	20,382 3 9	7,007 9 1	435,877 1 2	561,468 1 10	117,332 16 5	8 7 4	32,118 7 4	3,913 12 5	5,425 18 3	998,726 19 5	1,157,526 1			
	1864	141,629 16 3	28,180 0 7	25,433 4 3	672,435 19 11	867,679 1 0	201,904 19 10	6,256 4 7	36,022 1 8	8,615 15 6	13,592 16 3	1,427,928 7 2	1,694,320 5			
	1865	174,394 4 10	21,154 15 6	26,996 9 5	780,845 3 6	1,013,390 13 3	196,134 19 1	4,810 6 9	49,159 17 10	8,201 0 8	17,493 0 5	1,858,005 19 10	2,133,805 4			
	1866	185,496 17 5	28,337 9 5	31,428 6 3	806,743 10 8	1,052,006 3 9	225,575 2 7	5,841 15 5	57,723 15 2	11,921 6 9	17,460 11 9	2,300,963 3 11	2,619,485 15			
(1860	42,765 11 8	2,473 18 11	17 2 10	286,917 1 4	332,173 14 9	63,843 6 7	43 14 11	13,749 18 8	1,293 14 9	4,870 4 4	490,860 2 5	574,661 1			
	1861	63,104 12 4	4,499 17 5	323 5 3	322,310 5 5	390,238 0 5	84,916 8 6	40 8 6	18,016 0 7	1,527 7 3	8,101 16 1	618,315 18 1	730,917 19			
	1862	87,103 4 10	11,903 6 0	2,083 17 4	341,155 8 8	442,245 16 10	105,268 11 6	Nil.	25,538 9 8	2,286 14 1	4,107 1 10	751,678 5 10	888,879 2			
Fourth Quarter {	1863	107,634 1 10	14,351 5 10	4,189 16 5	472,765 16 0	598,941 0 1	128,632 4 1	1,253 7 6	34,542 6 1	8,649 0 2	6,894 18 1	1,055,989 5 3	1,235,961 1			
4 5 4 5 1 2	1864	137,799 3 5	22,398 11 11	11,057 8 4	757,153 19 4	928,409 3 0	178,503 11 0	13,510 0 3	38,874 19 11	17,201 16 11	6,504 0 8	1,571,188 5 9	1,825,782 14			
	1865	181,615 2 4	25,060 11 3	23,336 9 11	770,912 8 9	1,000,924 10 0	193,017 6 5	5,390 1 9	52,532 5 10	9,118 6 3	18,195 5 0	2,023,207 15 0	2,281,461 0			
	1866	126,957 6 6	11,871 17 1	16,235 1 4	750,604 14 1	905,668 19 0	218,656 15 1	8,055 9 9	62,091 6 0	7.765 19 11	22,287 14 10	1,906,579 14 2	2.225,436 19			

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To complete an estimate of the banking transactions of the past year it is necessary to take into account the issue of notes by the Government, as provided for by the Queensland Act of Parliament, 30th Victoria, No. 11, which Act came into operation on the 1st November 1866. By reference to the return published at page 114 of the Register it will be seen that on the 31st of December 1866 the total value of said notes in circulation was 24,697l.; adding this sum to the notes circulated by the private banks makes the total note circulation of the Colony, on the 31st December 1866, to have been 151,654l. 6s. 6d., or 33,842l. 10s. 11d. smaller in amount than the note circulation at the end of the previous year, 1865.

Live Stock.

RETURN of the LIVE STOCK in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND.

Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,529

The above return, so far as the number of sheep is concerned, is compiled partly from information collected by the police, and partly from returns forwarded to the Treasury by the owners of sheep stations in compliance with the Queensland Act of Parliament, 27th Victoria, No. 2, "Scab in Sheep Act." The returns furnished in compliance with this Act of Parliament are made up to the 31st June of each year, and therefore wherever I have had to use them the number of sheep returned in that district is probably somewhat smaller than would have been the case had the return been made up to the 31st of December following; it is only in those instances where no returns have been received from the police that I have had recourse to the Treasury returns as supplying the best information within my reach. Comparing the above return with that of the year 1865, it appears by the following table N. that a fair increase has taken place in each description of stock, except pigs.

N.

			1865.	1866.	Numerical Increase* or Decrease.†	Centesimal Increase* or Decrease.†	
Horses		•	51,001	52,311	*1,310	*2.57	
Cattle	-	-	848,346	919,414	*71,068	*8.38	
Sheep	-	-	6,594,966	7,278,778	*683,812	*10.37	
Pigs -	-	-	14,888	13,961	†927	†6.23	

Further detailed information of the quantity of live stock in each district of the Colony for the two years 1865 and 1866, showing the numerical and centesimal increase in each, is given in the following table.

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TABLE showing the Number of Live Stock in the Colony of Queensland in the Years 1865 and 1866.

	District				1	865.			1	866.	
	District			Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Banana		-		895	5,610	278,122	74	1,170	6,848	328,075	2
Bowen			-	860	31,864	133,957	191	693	27,736	151,429	20
Brisbane	-		-	5,237	57,506	4,189	5,343	4,165	26,704	5,553	3,56
Logan -			-	221	2,024	304	280	1,093	24,884	371	59
Burke 1		_		_	_	100	-	_	_	134,284	_
Cardwell			-	1 20	-		-	491	11,308	45,567	
Charleville		J -	-	2,500	41,072	372,312	5	2,50	41,072	441,382	7.0
Clermont				1,178	9,264	490,086	139	942	10,589	452,723	5
Condamine			-	566	8,025	98,466	15	515	5,605	117,551	4
Dalby -		-	-	2,099	24,993	685,897	335	2,058	24,873	667,150	45
Drayton and	Toow	oomba		3,892	19,009	521,079	1,526	3,731	14,059	386,823	1,73
Gayndah		- 1		3,239	75,362	744,922	202	3,432	73,613	764,441	20
Fladstone		- Z		1,520	48,858	56,406	454	1,670	54,981	83,134	28
oondiwindi	-	1		3,960	31,726	122,076	276	3,207	23,593	102,975	14
pswich		-		7,098	112,429	115,575	2,339	5,018	93,572	129,717	2,42
Leyburn			-	1,005	19,106	245,001	305	1,470	21,291	248,418	37
Iackay				367	11,043	37,040	86	271	11,905	100	. 9
Iitchell ²		-		331	5,297	148,581	_	274	13,237	209,663	_
Vanango		-	_	1,493	28,003	120,621	74	1,216	25,216	149,172	
Tebo -					_	_		343	7,337	114,925	2
rinchester		100	-	517	19,313	57,779	158	453	17,907	72,350	32
ockhamptor	1 -		-	2,836	27,399	299,532	1,411	3,052	40,946	173,107	1,40
loma -	-	-	-	679	9,929	439,395	_	1,042	9,677	612,563	4
omerset ³		3	1	21	300	45	20	21	350	3,000	/ _
pringsure			-	1,021	7,770	456,419	30	1,189	10,373	554,428	6
t. George	-	6-11	1-	2,972	101,430	176,773	46	3,467	109,767	175,062	7
urat -		r-A	-	535	30,624	142,161	30	749	31,340	134,619	4
aroom			-	1,117	8,846	372,051	8	1,261	10,401	510,546	2
ownsville	-11		-	-	_	37-212	-	616	21,396	105,450	6
arwick			-	2,845	20,933	267,250	1,213	3,259	29,463	321,542	87
averley	-		-	703	13,881	164,907	65	424	12,214	902	5
ide Bay	-	-	-	1,384	76,730	44,020	263	2,519	107,157	81,756	70
Total	-		-	51,091	848,346	6,594,966	14,888	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,96

¹ No returns having been received from this district, the number of sheep is taken from the sworn returns furnished to the Treasury.

² Only eleven stations in this district have sent in returns.

³ The number of sheep given is taken from the returns furnished to the Treasury.

I have on former occasions alluded to the unsatisfactory condition in which the live stock and agricultural returns reach this office, and a reference to the foregoing table, and to the notes at foot thereof, do not show much improvement. From two districts no returns whatever have been forwarded, and in one the horses and cattle are given, but not the sheep. Such omissions as these necessarily tend to shake confidence in correctness of the returns from the other districts. I do not think that the fault lies this year with the police, who, as far as I can judge, appear to have exerted themselves to make the returns as perfect as lay in their power. It is to be hoped that the value of speedy and reliable statistical information about subjects of such grave importance to the Colony as the state of its agriculture and the increase or decrease of its live stock will shortly be so generally recognized in Queensland as to lead to the discontinuance of the present imperfect means of collection, and the substitution of some more effective and reliable plan for obtaining the desired returns.

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Crown Lands.

D

RETURN of the QUANTITY of LAND SOLD, GRANTED, or LEASED by the Crown during the Year 1866, with the Money received therefrom.

			/		То	tal.
			Area.	Value.	Area.	Value.
			Acres		Acres.	£
Land sold 1	y Public Auction -		41,03	7 68,425		
Pre-emptiv			62,54	8 62,548		
	titive Sales		28			
Mineral La			- 61	The second of		
	gricultural Reserves -		9,12	20 To 10 To		
	Total Lands sold -				113,598	141,328
Land leased	l in Agricultural Reserves		3,17	3 397	110,000	,
Ditto	6d. per Acre		5,52			
Ditto	Sugar Regulations -		7,47			
Ditto	Leasing Act, 30 Vict., No.	o. 12	- 15,21			
	Total Lands leased -				31,380	2,80
Grants for	Special Purposes -		- 71	3 _	01,000	2,000
	er Cotton Regulations -		-	_		
	Total Lands granted -				713	

In the year 1865 the total quantity of land sold was 145,799 acres, which realized the sum of 224,403l. There is therefore a falling off in the quantity sold in the year 1866 of 32,201 acres, and in the amount realized in the sum of 83,078l.; the diminution in the area sold being at the rate of 22.09 per cent., and in the value thereof at the rate of 37.02 per cent. It is worthy of remark that the quantity of land sold by public auction is larger by 4,979 acres in the year 1866 than in the year 1865, and that the great falling off in the total quantity sold is found under the head of Pre-emptive sales, the respective quantities sold being 101,856 acres in 1865, and 62,548 acres in 1866.

The quantity of land alienated in fee by the Crown within the limits of and since the foundation of the present Colony of Queensland amounted, on the 31st December 1866, to 616,293 acres. The following table, Q, gives the quantity of land sold by public auction in each Commissioner's district during each of the years 1864, 1865, and 1866.

Q

Year.	Moreton.	Darling Downs.	Port Curtis.	Wide Bay and Burnett.	Kennedy.	Leichhardt.	Maranoa.	Total.
1864	A. 25,508	A. 5,652	4,809	1,518	л. 3,676	A. 9	A. 21	A. 41,194
1865	23,435	5,967	1,850	2,038	2,261	237	267	36,058
1866	20,787	11,024	2,394	2,044	3,420	443	922	41,037

The total quantity of land under the provisions of the Real Property Act of 1861 was, on the 31st December 1865, 426,833 acres 1 rood $10\frac{1}{2}$ perches; to this must be added, as the result of last year's operations, the further quantity of 127,942 acres 1 rood $10\frac{1}{2}$ perches, making a total of land under the above Act, on the 31st December 1866, of 554,775 acres 2 roods and 21 perches. The total quantity of land within the limits of the Colony alienated in fee by the Crown, before and since separation, amounted, on the 31st December 1866, to 694,345 acres. The proportion which the land under the provisions of the Real Property Act bears to the whole quantity of land alienated in fee by the Crown was, on the 31st December 1866, 79.90 per cent., that is to say, that out of each 100 acres alienated as above by the Crown very nearly 80 acres are under the provisions of the above Real Property Act.

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As the quantity of land not under the above Act each year diminishes, it necessarily follows that the year's applications to bring portions of it under the Act become less numerous; on the other hand, the various dealings with land already under the Act rapidly increase.

Real Property Transfer Office.

The following tables exhibit in detail the work of the above Office since its formation on the 1st January 1862, also the aggregate receipts and expenditure for the same period.

R.

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
Number of applications to bring land under the "Real Property Act."	485	530	650	499	363	2,527
Number of conveyances of land under the "Real Property Act" Number of mortgages of land under the "Real Property Act" Number of discharges of mortgages under the "Real Property Act."	376 36 —	1,317 107 —	2,397 306 —	3,153 619 —	3,180 926 233	10,423 1,994 233
Number of other dealings Number of deeds of grant registered under the "Real Property Act."	6 1,442	32 2,589	62 3,106	249 3,338	351 2,933	700 13,4 0 8
Total number of transactions ~ -	2,345	4,575	6,521	7,858	7,986	29,285
Number of certificates of title issued in pursuance of the above	612	2,060	3,009	4,024	3,860	13,565

S

STATEMENT of all SUMS received into the REAL PROPERTY OFFICE during each year of its existence.

1.0		•		Fees of	Offi	ice.	Assura	nce .	Fund.	To	tal.	
THE		-		£	s.	\overline{d} .	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1862	-		-	1.031	1	1	286	9	4	1,317	10	5
1863				2,031	10	10	377	10	10	2,409	1	8
1864		-	-	3,378	5	4	716	1	0	4,094	6	4
1865		-	-	4,127	16	11	579	9	9	4,707	6	8
1866	-	-	-	4,592	18	9	490	1	11	5,083	0	8
	Tota	1 -	_	15,161	12	11	2,449	12	10	17,611	5	9

STATEMENT of Amounts paid on account of Salaries and Contingencies from 1st January 1862 to 31st December 1866.

	Salaries.	Contingencies.	Total.
1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865 1866	£ s. d. 5,589 16 4 2,427 6 0	£ s. d. 1,628 5 9 532 11 9	£ s. d. 7,218 2 1 2,959 17 9
Total	8,017 2 4	2,160 17 6	10,177 19 10

N.B.—No claim against the assurance fund has been received.

Agriculture.

The following return shows the quantity of land under cultivation to have been 24,433 acres on the 31st December 1866. This is a large increase on 14,414 acres, the quantity returned as under cultivation on the 31st December 1865; the per-centage of increase is 69.51.

T. COMPARATIVE VIEW of the STATE of AGRICULTURE in each DISTRICT of QUEENSLAND, for the Years 1865 and 1866.

0 28 19	EK
0 0 0 0 22 1 38 15 21 38 25 4	MAJESTYS
0 0 0 0 222 1 38 5 15 10 0 0 0 0 12 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	ER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	POS
6 0 0 0 0	SESSIC
0 20 20	SNS
0 1 2	

			Maize	Barley.	Oats.	Millet.	Potatoes.	Cotton.	Arrowroot.	Sugar Cane.	Tobacco.	Green Fodder.	Dry Fodder.	Gardens.	All other Crops.	Vineyards.	Total.
anana	1865 1866 1865 1865 1866 1865	A. R. P. 18 0 0 6 0 0	A. R. P. 2 2 0 1 0 0 22 2 1 97 0 0 2,078 2 20 2,956 0 30	A. R. P. 13 1 0 18 3 0	A. R. P. 8 0 0 88 0 0 149 2 0	A. R. P. 7 0 0 10 0 0 6 1 0 24 3 4	A. R. P. 1 0 0 526 1 5 754 3 24		A. R. P. 0 2 0 0 1 0 9 1 26 15 1 39	A. R. P. 0 1 0 12 2 0 316 0 20 103 0 36	A. R. P. 2 1 5 4 1 11	A. R. P. 10 0 0 172 0 0 439 0 0	A. R. P. 560 3 0 1,129 0 21	A. R. P. 3 2 0 8 2 0 13 0 0 20 0 0 493 2 10 768 1 32	A. R. P.	A. R. P. 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0 41 1 10 114 3 36	A. R. P. 7 0 0 10 2 0 61 3 1 176 3 0 4,574 3 28 6,914 3 19
ondamine alby	\ 1866 \ 1865 \ 1866 \ 1865 \ 1866 \ 1865 \ 1866 \ 1866 \ 1865 \ 1866 \	238 2 20 274 0 0	\$ 0 0 1 1 0 0 21 0 32 27 0 0 1,086 3 28 1,845 3 10 53 1 23 18 2 0 14 1 0 692 3 20 905 1 0 13 0 0 21 1 2 328 1 0 1,148 0 0 20 2 0 1,148 0 0 20 2 0 20 20 0 20 0	19 1 20 25 0 10 5 2 0 0 2 0 0 13 3 0 10 3 0 1 2 0 1 0 0	111 2 0 150 0 0 111 2 0 150 0 0 20 0 2 10 0 0 10 0 0 20 0 0 10 0 0 20 0 0 10 0 0 20	10 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 10 5 0 0 0 10 3 4 0 2 1 2 1 0 3 1 0 1 0 0 16 2 0	1 0 0 0 2 2 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 30 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0	7 0 36 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 7 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0	0 1 20 2 0 5 0 1 0 0 1 0 6 1 0 2 1 0 2 1 0 15 1 0 12 2 2 9 1 3 3 	0 0 10 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 2 2 0 0 125 3 0 20 0 0 155 0 0 112 2 34 248 3 0	2 2 1 3 3 10 2 0 0 3 3 0 2 1 0 3 1 0 9 0 0 4 1 0	1 2 0 0 5 1 0 127 2 0 0 13 3 3 0 0 4 3 0 0 0 0 3 1 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 0 10 0 0 149 3 0 464 1 0 9 0 0 6 2 0 388 1 0 550 2 0 101 1 0 59 2 0 36 2 0 20 1 0 13 0 0 13 0 0 50 0 0	6 2 0 1 2 0 2 1 0 24 2 0 14 0 1 49 2 7 81 3 13 32 0 1 28 2 12 66 3 23 33 2 0 6 0 0 145 3 1 1277 1 27 10 2 0 146 2 12 64 2 0 3 0 0 3 0 0 1 277 1 27 2 2 0 6 8 0 0 3 7 2 20 8 0 0 4 2 0 1 2 2 0 1 3 0 0 1 4 5 2 1 0 1 4 0 0 1 5 2 2 0 1 6 0 0 0 1 6 0 0 0 1 7 2 2 0 1 8 0 0 0 1 9 2 2 2 8	5 0 0 0 39 0 1 0 2 0 13 1 0 40 1 0 66 1 30	2 0 0 5 3 0 21 1 24 19 1 26 3 2 0 17 3 12 1 0 10 0 2 0 3 3 3 20 1 1 0 10 0 2 0 3 3 3 20 0 1 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 1 0 0 2 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 3 0 35	3,814 2 10 66 2 2 158 2 0 506 1 12 2,312 3 0 44 2 0 189 2 0 659 1 8 1,079 0 18 67 0 0 50 2 0 5 2 0 7 1 0 340 2 20
oma ringsure . George	\$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc	2,220 1 0	58 3 0 0 7 2 0 0 3 0 0 0 10 0 0 0 1 2 1 0 0 1 2 1 0 0 0 1 2 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0	4 2 0	16 3 0	4 2 0	11 2 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 20 0 2 20 142 0 11 69 0 0	6 0 0 0 2 0 70 6 0 1 0 0	0 1 0	60 0 0	0 2 0	6 0 0 3 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 207 1 0 36 3 0	8 0 0	102 3 28 3 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 2 0 4 3 0 2 2 0 10 0 0 4 3 0 2 2 0 10 0 0 56 3 2 0 2 0 1 0 0	20 1 0	9 3 1 0 0 16 1 0 0 0 3 0 0 3 0 11 1 0 9 1 10	250 1 32 11 0 18 6 2 0 0 13 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 14 2 0 10 3 0 0 15 1 20 12 0 20 140 0 0 3,983 2 11 5,531 0 2 0 1 0 0

QUEENS-LAND.

The principal heads under which this increase is most apparent are maize, cotton, and hay or dry fodder. Cotton especially shows an average nearly sixfold greater than was the case in the year 1865; the Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan, and Maryborough districts are those which have mainly produced the increase in cotton. Although the returns of land under sugar cultivation show in the aggregate an increase of about 50 per cent. on the quantity returned in the year 1865, the total amount is small, and it will doubtless be observed that a decrease appears in the Brisbane district, arising from a large plantation having been allowed during the past year temporarily to fall out of cultivation.

Under this head it may be as well to draw attention to last year's importations of

grain and other agricultural productions of those descriptions capable of being grown in

the Colony.

Hay and straw Potatoes Onions

Oatmeal and maizemeal

Total

Wheat Barley Oats Maize

			0.			
-		Quantity.	Valu	ie.		Remarks.
400	THE RESERVE		£	8.	d.	
	- bushels	5,063	1,573	0	0	
	- ,,	1,591	420	0	0	
400	- ,,	16,856	5,099	()	0	This list might have been made
180	- ,,	191,059	45,268	0	0	longer by the addition of tobacco,
	- bales	11,281	21,137	0	0	sugar, arrowroot, butter, cheese,
	- cwt.	78,668	28,503	0	0	poultry, &c. &c.
	- lbs.	409,870	3,466	0	. 0	pourtry, cor. cor.

3,486 0

261,205 0 0

370,157 0 0

Shipping.

2,125

14,637

tons

The shipping returns for the year 1866 show a considerable increase during the year in the number of ships trading to Queensland. This increase has principally taken place in the intercolonial commerce. The total numbers of ships entered inwards and cleared outwards, with their aggregate tonnage and crews, are given below for each of the years 1865 and 1866.

	Physical Part				٧.							
	V				Entered inwards	•		Cleared outwards.				
	Year.			Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.			
1865		-		497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791			
1866		-	-	569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567			
Numeric	al increase	-		72	24,438	1,479	68	28,838	1,776			
Centesin	nal increase			14.49	14.11	12.03	13.93	17.25	15:06			

The nationality of all ships trading to or from the Colony during the year 1866 is given in the following table. W.

N 154-			Entered inwards		Cleared outwards.					
Nationality.		Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.			
Great Britain -		40	34,671	1,192	37	32,716	948			
France		1	61	10	1	61	9			
Germany		5	3,312	96	5	3,311	91			
Denmark	2	2	553	21	2	553	24			
British Possessions .		521	159,068	12,454	511	159,350	12,495			
Total -		569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567			

The country from whence the above ships have arrived, or whither they have sailed, as well as the particular port in Queensland which they entered or left, will be found by reference to the shipping tables published at pages 99 and 101 of the Register.

Trade.

The estimated value of the exports and imports by sea of the year 1866 is-

£2,467,907 Imports by sea - £1,366,491 Exports by sea

of the overland trade with the neighbouring colonies no record is at present obtainable.

Comparing the above returns with those for the year 1865, it appears that during the year 1866 the imports have diminished in value by 37,652l., or at the rate of 1.50 per cent. on the imports of the year 1865; and that exports have increased in value by 213,027l., or at the rate of 18.46 per cent. on the exports of the year 1865.

QUEENS LAND.

A further examination of the trade returns for the last two years shows that the exportation of goods which are the produce or the manufacture of Queensland have increased in estimated value during the year 1866 by the sum of 175,922*l*., or at the rate of 15.73 per cent. on the similar exports of the year 1865; and that the re-exportation of goods the produce or the manufacture of other countries or colonies has increased in the year 1866 by the sum of 37,105*l*., or at the rate of 103.89 per cent. on the value of similar exports in the year 1865.

TOTAL VALUE in Sterling of the IMPORTS and EXPORTS of the COLONY of QUEENSLAND, from and to each Country, in the Years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866.

	Year,	Imports therefrom,	Exports thereto.		per cent.* or
				Imports.	Exports.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£
	1860	56,730 0 0		-	-
	1861	90,905 0 0	119,515 0 0	* 60.24	-
G . D	1862	215,509 0 0	238,553 0 0	*137.07	* 99.60
Great Britain	1863	365,093 0 0	233,392 0 0	* 69.41	† 21.63
	1864	506,697 0 0	354,636 0 0	* 38.79	* 51.95
	1865	713,545 0 0	240,550 0 0	* 40.82	† 32.17
	1866	742,884 0 0	321,939 0 0	* 4.11	* 33.83
	1860	523,165 0 0	161,546 0 0	_	_
	1861	874,797 13 11	589,633 15 0	* 67.21	*264.99
	1862	1,100,935 0 0	550,839 0 0	* 25.85	† 6.58
Australian Colonies and New Zealand	1863	1,335,606 0 0	649,299 0 0	21.32	* 17.87
	1864	1,746,871 0 0	892,320 0 0	* 30.79	* 37.43
	1865	1,783,737 0 0	912,824 0 0	* 2.11	* 2.29
	1866	1,711,895 0 0	1,027,918 0 0	† 4.03	* 12.61
	1860	<u> </u>	-	_	_
	1861	1,180 0 0	_	-	-
	1862	4,688 0 0	-	* 29.73	_
Germany	1863	12,539 0 0	_	* 16.53	_
	1864	7,370 0 0		† 41.22	-
	1865	8,277 0 0	_	* 12.30	_
	1866	3,921 0 0	- N	† 52.63	
	1860		311 0 0		_
	1861		450 0 0	C STATE AND	* 44.69
India, China, Ceylon, Batavia,	1862	3 0 0	1,876 0 0	-	*316.89
India, China, Ceylon, Batavia, Penang, and Guam.	1863		4,521 0 0		*140.99
Tenang, and Guam.	1864		94 0 0	_	† 97.92
	1865		13 0 0	_	† 86.17
	1866	9,059 0 0	16,396 0 0	_	*126,023.08
	1860	-			7, N-
	1861	-			_
	1862	-	1,968 0 0	_	_
South America	1863		706 0 0	_	† 64.13
	1864	6,880 0 0	4 0 0		+ 99.43
	1865		77 0 0	_	_
The same of the sa	1866		88 0 0	_	* 14.29
	1860		311 0 0	_	_
	1861		_	-	-
	1862	2,394 0 0		- 10	
New Caledonia	1863				-
	1864	36 0 0		_	_
	1865	_			
	1866	-	150 0 0	_	
	1860			_	_
	1861	1,068 0 0			
Court Con Talanda and Court Con	1862			/ -	-
South Sea Islands and Coral Sea	1863	25 0 0	463 0 0	-	
Fishery.	1864	100 0 0	_	*300.00	_
	1865	_			_
	1866	148 0 0	-	-	_
	1000	710,000 0 0	1 KOO 4 KO O O		
	1860	742,023 0 0	523,476 0 0		-
	1861	967,950 13 11	709,598 15 0	* 30.45	* 35.56
	1862	1,323,509 0 0	793,236 0 0	* 36.73	* 11.79
Totals	1863	1,713,263 0 0	888,381 0 0	* 29.45	* 11.99
	1864	2,267,954 0 0	1,247,054 0 0	* 32.38	* 40.37
	1865	2,505,559 0 0	1,153,464 0 0	* 10.48	† 7.55
	1866	2,467,907 0 0	1,366,491 0 0	† 1.50	* 18.46

QUEENS-

By the above table it appears that the direct trade of the Colony with Great Britain has increased under the heads of both Imports and Exports, the former at the rate of 4·11 per cent. and the latter at the rate of 33·17 per cent.; while the trade with the other Australian colonies has under the head of Imports diminished at the rate of 4·03 per cent., and of Exports has increased at the rate of 12·61.

The value of the following table, showing the yearly quantity and estimated value of wool exported from Queensland since its formation as a Colony, is much diminished by no distinction having been made between washed and unwashed wool. Last year for the first time this distinction is drawn, and will in future years be of much service.

Y.
YEARLY EXPORT of Wool.

Years.	To Great	Britain.	To New Son	nth Wales.	Total.		
1000	lbs.	£	lbs. 5,007,167	£ 444.188	lbs. 5,007,167	£ 444,188	
1860 1861	1,415,991	109,425	5,578,042	503,649	6,994,033	613.074	
1862	2,522,662	195,506	5,540,950	431,676	8,063,612	627.182	
1863	2,502,064	213,688	8,166,980	563,088	10,669,044	776,776	
1864	3,932,715	337,818	10,074,074	699,845	14,006,789	1,037,663	
1865	2,507,579	197,826	9,744,262	687,473	12,251,841	885,299	
Clean	3,169,768	272,754	8,830,457	613,999	14,346,239	987,659	
866 Grease	259,358	16,462	2,086,656	84,444	14,340,239	987,65	

It will be seen by the foregoing table that the export of wool in the year 1866 was larger than in the previous year. The difference in quantity shipped was 2,094,398 lbs., being an increase at the rate of 17.09 per cent. on the quantity exported in the year 1865; the increase in the estimated value is 102,360*l*., being at the rate of 11.56 per cent. on the estimated value of the previous year, 1865. The difference observable in the respective centesimal rates of increase of the quantity and value of wool shipped arises from a smaller average rate of value per pound having been given to the wool in the latter year. In the year 1865 the average estimated value was 17.34*d*. per pound, in 1866 it was 16.52*d*. per pound.

Many causes, arising from the weather, the state of the roads, the labour market, &c. &c., disturb the yearly estimates of wool exported, and tend improperly to increase or diminish the shipments of each individual year. The safest way to calculate the increase is to take the average yearly rate of increase of the whole number of years over which the

table extends, this average will be found to be 31.08 per cent. per annum.

The quantity and estimated value of cotton exported in 1866 is greater than in the year 1865. The quantity shipped in 1866 was 207,272 lbs., and its estimated value 19,618l., showing an increase on the previous year of 61,452 lbs., estimated to be of the value of 7,421l. These figures are still small, and deserve notice principally as showing the commencement and growth of an industry likely to become hereafter of great importance.

Next to wool the largest increase in any export of Queensland produce is to be found under the head "Live stock," the total estimated value being 38,948l., the increase on the shipments of the year 1865 being estimated at 32,544l. Provisions and copper ore also show a large increase on the shipments of 1865, the former of 16,503l., and the latter of 15,478l. The value of the exports and imports by sea from or to each port in the

Colony is given in the following table :-

Z.

Port.			Exports.	Imports.	Total Trade
			£	£	£
Albany -		-		86	86
Brisbane -	_	-	773,834	1,838,283	2,612,117
Cleveland Bay			29,266	29,848	59,114
Hinchinbrook	-	-		1,812	1,812
Maryborough	-		91,808	84,420	176,228
Pioneer River	-	-	14,065	2,326	16,391
Port Curtis	-	10	62,056	18,465	80,521
Port Denison	-		42,437	78,208	120,645
Rockhampton			348,745	413,880	762,625
St. Lawrence		-	4,280	579	4,859
Total		-	1,866,491	2,467,907	3,834,398

The following return of sheep which have crossed the frontier of Queensland on their way to other colonies during the year 1866 did not reach me in time to be placed in its proper place among the tables printed in the register:—

QUEENS-LAND.

From the	District of	of Warwick -			-	41,770
Ditto	Ditto	Moonie -	-		-	59,766
Ditto	Ditto	Warrego -	-	-		54,200
Ditto	Ditto	Paroo -	-	-	-	17,080
Ditto Ditto		Goondiwindi	1	-	~	183,050
		Total		-	-	355,866

The frontier inspector, by whom the above was compiled, states that the returns from Goondiwindi are imperfect, and that he believes 400,000 would be nearer the total number of sheep exported across the frontier during the year 1866. Taking the return as it stands, and valuing the sheep at the low average, for the year 1866, of nine shillings per head, the sum of 160,139l. 14s. is produced, and should be added to the Customs returns for the past year, raising the estimated value of the exports during that period from 1,366,491l. to 1,526,630l., and also raising the value of exported live stock from 38,948l. to 199,087l. 14s. Many head of cattle are also known to have crossed the frontier, but no account has been kept of their number. It is hoped that in future years more attention will be paid to the collection of these important returns.

Revenue.

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the Year ending 31st December 1866.

Receipts during the Year, including Land Orders received in payment of Land purchased from the Crown.	Expenditure during the Year, including Land Orders negotiated.	
£ s. d. 592,968 10 10	£ s. d. 696,828 15 4	

The expenditure of the year 1866, charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, exceeds the receipts of that year by the sum of 103,860l. 4s. 6d., irrespective of a further expenditure during the year, and charged to the Loan Fund, of 965,346l. 2s. 6d.

Comparing the above receipts and expenditure with those of the year 1865, the following are the total results:—

		Receipts.	Expenditure.	Balance to Credit* or to Debit† of Revenue.				
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865		-	-	-	-	631,431 17 11	617,996 8 1	* 13,435 9 10
1866		-	-			592,968 10 10	696,828 15 4	† 103,860 4 6
Increase	e* or I	Diminutio	on† in 1	866	-	†38,463 7 1	*78,832 7 3	50 50 M Still 10
Centesi	mal rat	e of Inc	rease or	Dimin	ution	†6.09	*12.75	

The receipts of the year 1866, as given above, appear to be smaller than the receipts of the year 1865 by the sum of 38,463*l*. 7s. 1d.; this diminution is attributable to a large decrease in the land revenue of the past year, and to the receipts of the previous year having been credited with the sum of 21,664*l*. 16s. 8d. as premium on debentures sold during that year, an item which does not appear in the year 1866.

The following table enables an accurate comparison of the two years' receipts to be made:—

QUEENS-LAND. RECEIPTS on Account of the QUEENSLAND CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND during each of the Years 1865 and 1866.

Head of Revenue.	1865.			1866.			Increase* Decrease† in the year.	Centesimal Increase* or Decrease.†		
	£	8.	d.	£	8.	d.	£	s.	d.)
Customs	195,540	15	1	223,384	13	11			10	*14'24
Stamp Duty				4,225	9	2		9	2	_
Gold	3,566	13	5	2,987	15	10	†578	17	7	†16.21
Land Revenue	323,647		3	248,722	0	9	†74,925	9	6	†23.15
Postage	18,081		9	19,570	3	4	*1,488	6	7	*8.23
Commission on Post Office Orders	771			486		1000	†285	3	4	†36.96
Licences	22,044		4	22,637	6	-	*592	9	2	*2.68
Fees of Office	12,961	7	8	12,587	5	100000	†374	1	9	†2.88
Fines and Forfeitures	1,894		8	2,569	7		*675	3	10	*35.64
Rents (exclusive of land)	591	12	8	591	13	10	*0	1	2	*
Harbour Dues and Fees	5,195	8	3	6,482	5	0	*1,286	16	9	*24.75
Railway Receipts	5,679	3	7	26,504	14	5	*20,825	10	10	*366.70
Civil Service Superannuation Fund	2,759	2	3	2,251	4	3	†507	18	0	†18.37
Electric Telegraph Receipts -	10,064	18	9	10,858	15	7	*793	16	10	*7.88
Premium on Debentures	21,664		8	_			†21,664	16	8	† —
Miscellaneous Receipts	6,967	12	9	9,078	19	4	*2,111	6	7	*30.30
Total	631,431	17	11	592,968	10	10	†38,463	7	1	†6.09

The above receipts, compared with the mean population of the Colony for each of the years 1865 and 1866, are, for the year 1865, at the rate of 7l. 16s. 1·1d. per head, and, for the year 1866, at the rate of 6l. 8s. 11·2d. per head.

Revenue derived from the Crown Lands of the Colony.

This item of revenue is divisible into two parts; first, the amount realized by the alienation in fee of portions of the said lands, and which, strictly speaking, is not revenue; and, secondly, the amount realized as annual rent, or assessment, for other portions of the said lands, the fee thereof still remaining in the Crown.

The following is a return of the amounts received in payment for land sold by the Crown during each of the first seven years of the Colony's existence, distinguishing cash

payments from payments made in land orders :-

Year.		Amount received in Cash.				Amount received in Land Orders.			Total Amount received from the Sale of Crown Lands.			
		£	8.		£	8.	d.	£	5.	d.		
1860	- 1	45,955	7	5	-	-		45,955	7	5		
1861	- 1	68,700	13	3	Property			68,700		3		
1862	-	59,381	15	0	51,144	17	4	110,526	12	4		
1863	- 1	40,007	2	3	95,607	15	3	135,614	17	6		
1864	-	57,698	17	11	133,031	3	4	190,730	1	3		
1865		59,461	0	0	158,970	9	1	218,431		1		
1866	- 1	29,393		7	102,217	30	11	131,611	4	6		

By the above table the year 1866 shows a serious falling off in its receipts derived from the sale of land, especially in that portion of them which were paid in cash. The centesimal rate of decrease in the total amount received in that year is 39.74, and in the cash portion of the receipts is 50.56.

cash portion of the receipts is 50.56.

Under the second of the above parts, namely, the one referring to rents and assessments, the receipts during each of the last seven years are given in the following table:—

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
£ s. d. 55,617 7 3	£ s. d. 64,552 3 6	£ s. d. 82,059 6 7	£ s. d. 87.821 17 7	£ s. d. 90,730 9 5	£ s. d. 105,216 1 2	£ s. d. 117,110 17 3

A steady annual increase is shown in the above return, the receipts of the year 1866 being rather more than double those of the year 1860.

Revenue derived from Duties collected by the Customs.

QUEENS-LAND.

The revenue collected by the Customs was last year larger than on any previous year, not, however, to be attributed to a larger importation of dutiable articles, but to a great addition having, during the year, been made to the scale of duties.

The following is a table showing the amount collected by the Customs during each of the last seven years, and the rateable proportion each year's collections bear to the mean

population of such year :--

Year.	Mean Population of the	Customs Receipts.	Average per Head of the Mean	Remarks. Acts of Queensland Parliament imposing additional Customs Duties.					
	Year.		Population.						
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.						
1860	27,017	59,210 3 7	2 3 93						
1861	31,886	71,678 18 11	2 5 7						
1862	40,593	96,107 11 8	2 7 41						
1863	53,970	125,199 6 11	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$						
1864	67,181	153,341 19 6	$2 \ 5 \ 7\frac{3}{4}$	28 Vict., No. 16, Export tax on Gold.					
1865	80,905	195,540 15 1	2 8 4.06	29 Vict., No. 2, increased import duties on Wines and Spirits.					
1866	91,973	223,384 13 11	2 8 6.75	30 Vict., No. 9 and No. 15, ad valorem and other imporduties.					

It is remarkable that, in spite of the great addition made last year to our import dutise, the average receipts per head of the mean population should be almost exactly the same as in the previous year, the year's increase in population and in Customs receipts having

maintained precisely the same centesimal rate.

It is difficult to estimate correctly the real difference in the Customs receipts attributable to increased taxation, for there can be no question that the imposition of a heavy ad valorem duty has materially diminished the estimated value placed by importers on their imports. A calculation founded therefore on the proportion that the Customs duties received during any previous year or years bore to the estimated value of the imports of that year or years is necessarily disturbed in the case of last year, by the different scale of valuation adopted by importers since the passing of the Queensland Acts of Parliament, 30 Victoria, No. 9, and 30 Victoria, No. 15.

Expenditure charged to Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The total expenditure of the year 1866, charged to the above account, exceeds that of the year 1865 by the sum of 78,832l. 7s. 3d. This difference is far more than accounted for by the following items, most of them the unavoidable consequences of previous legislation, and others having no previous existence, and not being likely to recur again.

			£	S.	1	
Interest on Debentures in excess of the amount paid in 1865 -			53,929		1	
Payments under Schedule B. in excess of the amount paid in 1865			7,328			
Interest paid to Union Bank on account of overdrawn account -		a marin	10,000	-	-	
Expenses attending the issue of Debentures, Treasury Bills and	Notes.	and)				
salaries and contingencies of Stamp Duty Office -		-	1,605	19	2	
Railway salaries and contingencies in excess of those of 1865 -		-	8,190	13	4	
Torres' Straits Mail Service			25,571			
Amount paid to Relief Camps during the year -			12,949			
Charitable Institutions -	2		17,281			
Total -	-	- £	136,856	19	8	
			,			

Compared with the mean population of each of the years 1865 and 1866, the total expenditure each year, charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, is for the year 1865 at the rate of 7l. 12s. 9·22d. per head, and for the year 1866 at the rate of 7l. 11s. 6·34d. per head.

Public Debt.

The total amount of the public debt of the Colony of Queensland was, on the 31st December 1865, 1,135,550l. During the year 1866 debentures representing the sum of 718,750l. were sold, as well as treasury bills representing the sum of 300,000l. 20044.

QUEENS-LAND. The total debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1866 was 2,150,300l. This debt, compared with the mean population of the Colony during that year, is at the rate of 23l. 7s. 7·12d. per head; and the annual interest payable thereon (the debentures bearing six per cent., and the Treasury bills ten per cent. per annum), amounting to 141,018l., is at the rate of 1l. 10s. 7·98d. per head of the mean population of the past year.

The various foregoing calculations, under the general head of Revenue, are based solely on the statement of revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the year 1866, published at pages 129 to 155 inclusive of the register, prepared and compiled by the Auditor-General of the Colony, and presented to both Houses of Parliament by command

of his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. O. DARVALL,
Registrar-General.

				Population.							Land	Sales.			Li	ve Stock.	
	Year.		Males.	Females.	Persons.	Births.	Mar- riages.	Deaths.	Immi- gration.	Emi- gration.	Number of Acres.	Amount realised.	Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Horses,	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1859		-	14,940	10,206	25,146						A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.				
1860		-	17,275	11,612	28,887	1,236	255	478	_	_	23,587 1 21	37,978 15 3	3,353 1 0	23,504	432,890	3,166,802	7,147
1861	-	-	21,231	13,654	34,885	1,423	320	499	6,178	1,809	56,849 1 141	94,063 3 1	4,440 2 18	28,983	560,196	4,093,381	7,465
1862	-	-	28,177	18,123	46,300	1,702	570	797	12,252	2,447	67,873 1 9	106,019 13 5	6,086 0 203	36,532	637,296	4,553,353	7,066
1863		-	37,579	24,061	61,640	2,221	774	1,275	17,450	3,761	62,948 1 381	108,828 8 6	11,262 0 20	45,805	880,392	5,672,400	7,351
1864		-	45,516	28,520	74,036	2,883	951	1,446	17,009	6,050	139,814 1 20	210,725 18 5	12,006 2 37	40,678	882,073	5,665,334	12,066
1865		-	53,297	34,478	87,775	3,532	1,034	1,733	22,855	10,886	145,799 2 38.8	224,403 15 6	14,414 1 39	51,091	848,346	6,594,966	14,888
1866		-	57,288	38,884	96,172	4,126	1,067	2,361	16,389	9,757	113,598 0 0	141,325 0 0	24,433 0 27	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,961

			Shipp	ping.				Exports o	f Colonial	Produce.		Imports.	Exports.				Edi	acation.	the Su- Circuit
Year.		Inwards			Outward	S.			Hides					Gross Revenue, including Special Receipts	Gross Expenditure, including	Loans authorized			in P
	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	and Skins, value.	Gold, value.	Cotton, value.	Total Value.	Total Value.	and Land Orders cancelled.	Land Orders negotiated.	Parliament.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Convictions preme an Courts.
							£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£			
1860	210	45,736	3,745	183	39,503	3,138	444,188	25,628	14,030	_	_	742,023	523,477	178,589 8 5	161,503 5 3	125	62	3,169	30
1861	251	57,377	4,750	234	51,827	4,395	613,074	48,009	19,834	-	_	967,951	709,599	238,238 9 1	299,006 5 5	123,800	68	4,221	24
1862	330	77,312	6,154	305	71,981	5,554	627,182	50,979	2,550	1	_	1,323,509	793,236	346,431 5 5	418,461 11 11		84	4,925	23
1863	389	104,421	7,948	353	98,844	7,184	776,776	30,716	19,243	14,802	3,056	1,713,263	888,381	390,823 0 10	512,192 10 2	707,436	107	6,175	56
1864	431	129,687	9,265	396	116,702	8,352	1,037,663	32,999	24,999	83,292	4,186	2,267,954	1,247,054	524,198 17 11	572,066 1 10	1,019,000	129	7,260	61
1865	497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791	885,299	57,155	31,325	92,938	12,197	2,505,559	1,153,464	674,429 18 10	617,996 8 1	1,107,950	*101	5,689	99
1866	569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567	987,659	53,597	27,159	85,561	19,618	2,467,907	1,366,491	617,673 8 11	696,828 15 4	300,000	*129	6,738	132

^{*} The Returns of Schools for the years 1865 and 1866 are exclusive of Sunday schools under the supervision of ministers of religion, no information having been supplied.

		Population.							Land	Sales.	Number		Live	Stock.	
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Immi- gration.	Emi- grants.	Number of Acres.	Amount realised.	of Acres under Cultiva- tion.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Increase per cent. in 1861	22.90	17.59	20.73	15.29	25.49	4.39			141.02	147 · 67	32.42	23.31	29.41	29.26	4.45
Increase per cent. in 1862	32.72	32.73	32.72	19.61	78.13	59.72	98.32	35.27	19.39	12.71	37.29	26.05	13.76	11.24	-5.65
Increase per cent. in 1863	33.37	32.76	33.13	30.49	35.79	59.97	42.43	53.62	-7.26	2.65	85.05	25.38	38.14	24.58	4.03
Increase per cent. in 1864	21.14	18.53	20.11	29.81	22.87	21.25	-5.23	60.86	122.11	93.63	6.61	-12.60	0.19	-0.12	64.14
Increase per cent. in 1865	17.09	20.89	18.55	20.71	8.73	18.53	34.37	79.93	4.28	6.49	20.05	25.59	0.65	20.20	23.38
1ncrease per cent. in 1866	7:49	12.78	9.57	16.82	-0.65	36.24	-39.45	-11:57	-22:09	-37.02	69.51	2:57	8.38	10.37	-6.23
Increase per cent. in six years -	283 · 44	280.99	282 · 45	233.82	318.43	393.93	165.28	439.36	381.61	272 · 12	628 · 69	122.56	112.39	129.85	95.34

			Ship	ping.										Educ	cation.
		Inwards.			Outwards.		Exports	of Colonial	Produce.	Imports.	Exports.	Gross	Gross	Educ	f General
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	Hides and Skins, value.	Total value.	Total value.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.		Number of Scholars.
Increase per cent. in 1861	19.52	25.45	26.84	27.87	31.20	40.06	38.02	87.33	41.37	30.45	35.55	33.40	85.14	9.68	33.20
Increase per cent. in 1862	31.47	34.74	29.56	30.34	38.89	26.37	2.30	6.15	-14.24	36.73	11.79	45.41	43.29	23 · 53	16.68
Increase per cent. in 1863	17.88	35.06	29.15	15.74	37.32	24.10	23.85	-65.91	-7.51	29.45	11.99	12.81	22.35	27.38	25.38
Increase per cent. in 1864	10.80	24.20	16.57	12.18	18.07	16.26	33.58	7.43	-7.67	32.38	40.37	34.13	11.69	20.56	17.57
Increase per cent. in 1865	15.31	33.57	32.69	23 · 23	43.23	41.17	26.49	73.14	108.83	10.47	-7.50	28.66	8.03	-21.71	-21.64
Increase per cent. in 1866	14.49	14.11	12.03	13.93	17.25	15.06	11.56	-6.23	-13:30	-1.50	18.46	8.42	12.75	27.72	18:44
Increase per cent. in the six years -	170.95	332 · 18	267 · 77	203.82	396 · 14	332.35	122.35	109.13	93.58	232 · 59	161.04	245.86	3 30·23	108.06	112.62

VICTORIA.

No. 17.

(Not received.)

VICTORIA.

No. 17.

TASMANIA.

No. 18.

TASMANIA.

No. 18.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor T. Gore Browne, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 28.) My LORD DUKE,

Government House, Hobarton, Tasmania,

September 19, 1867.

I have the honour to forward copies of the statistics of Tasmania, supplied in place of a Blue Book for the year 1866.

These returns have been prepared with great care, and contain more information than

has heretofore been published in previous papers of a similar description.

Your Grace will observe that during the ten years ending in 1866 emigration has been in excess of immigration, which has been caused by the attraction of the gold fields in the neighbouring colonies. Notwithstanding this decrease the population has increased during the ten years by 15,368, and by 2,167 or 2.28 per cent. during the year 1866. It was estimated at 97,368 on 31st December 1866.

Exports and imports have declined gradually during the ten years ending in 1866. In 1857 they were $16l. 4s. 0\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $15l. 4s. 0\frac{1}{2}d.$ per head, and in 1866 they had fallen

to 8*l*. 11s. $5\frac{1}{4}d$. and 9*l*. 13s. $6\frac{1}{4}d$.

The debt of the Colony amounted to 553,280l. on 31st December 1866, being considerably less in proportion to the population than that of any of the neighbouring

colonies except South Australia.

Of the public revenue I need only observe that it amounted in 1866 to (in round numbers) 240,8001, and that I have every hope that it will in future be equal to, if not in excess of the ordinary expenditure.

Your Grace will observe that penal establishments are maintained at a cost of 24,362l., and charitable establishments at 29,161l., together amounting to 53,500l.

The return of agricultural produce is not, I regret to say, as good as it ought to be, for which the statistician assigns various and sufficient, if not satisfactory, reasons. Live stock have slightly increased during the ten years, the alteration in any one year having been unimportant. The wool produced in Tasmania has for some time brought a good price in the English market, and still continues to do so.

Serious crime has decreased rapidly during the last few years. In 1859 twelve persons were executed, in 1864 one, in 1865 two, and in 1866 none; this must doubtless be attributed to the decrease by death and emigration of the original convict

population.

The report of the Board of Education which I attach to these papers is satisfactory, and I have no hesitation in saying that the scheme of education in this Colony is well fitted to spread sound education through all classes of the community. The plan of giving exhibitions which give admission to superior schools to young boys, of conferring the degree of Associate of Arts on more advanced students, and finally of providing for the maintenance of two young men annually at the English University, after they have proved themselves duly qualified, has raised the standard of education throughout the Colony, and has prevented the gradual decline which must have followed if that standard

had depended only on comparison with others in the same isolated locality.

The vital statistics of Tasmania have always been highly satisfactory, the mean rate for the year being 13.72 per thousand, that of the ten years ending in 1866 having been

16.23 per thousand,

I have, &c. T. GORE BROWNE. (Signed)

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

TASMANIA.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Legislative Council, Hobart Town, July 31, 1867. SIR,

I have the honour to present herewith the statistics of the Colony for the year 1866. My appointment as statistician was not publicly notified until the 22nd January last, Preliminary. and nearly one month of the present year had therefore passed before I was in a position to commence the work. This will account, in some measure, for any imperfections which may be found in regard to the form or matter of the returns, inasmuch as it left me so much less time in which to compile them. On a more leisurely review

of the returns on a future occasion, further improvements may very possibly suggest themselves.

On assuming the duties of the new office I found that the statistics of former years had been prepared in so imperfect and inaccurate a manner, and with so little regard to order and method, that it was necessary to recast the whole; and accordingly the first duty was to reconsider every return, both with reference to matter and shape, and to devise new forms where it appeared desirable. This of itself, considering the short time at my disposal, if the returns were to be completed in time for presentation to Parliament,

was a most anxious and laborious duty.

In addition to this, a large number of new returns has been added, affording a corresponding amount of information, which I trust may be found useful and instructive. The obtaining of the information necessary for the preparation of these returns, the examination, arranging, and compiling of them when received, and the inauguration of an entirely new system, have occupied the whole of the time not necessarily devoted to my other official duties, and have entailed an amount of physical and mental labour which would scarcely seem credible to those who have never been engaged in a similar work and under similar circumstances; and in consideration of the fact that all this has been done by myself, without any assistance whatever (except in reading some of the proofs, in which Mr. H. M. Hull has been kind enough to lend his aid), and without any actual increase of emolument, I hope to receive at least credit for a considerable share of zeal and public spirit, and to reap such a measure of approval as the exhibition of those qualities may seem to merit.

Objects proposed.

My object throughout has been, primarily, to make the returns practically useful to the Government, the Legislature, and the public generally; and in subordination to that design, to serve the cause of statistical and social science.

For the sake of convenience I shall follow, in the remarks which I may have to make, the order which has been observed in the classification of the Returns themselves.

Population.

I.—Population.

The first four returns are simply reprinted without alteration, and require no comment. The total population of the Colony on the 31st December, as estimated by adding the increase by births and arrivals, and subtracting the decrease by deaths and departures, was 97,368,—an increase of 2,167, or 2.28 per cent.

Density.

for past ten years,

The density of population is, for the whole Colony with its dependent islands, 3.71 to a square mile; or if the islands and lakes be excluded, four persons to a square mile. If, again, the unsettled parts (being 4,832,000 acres) be deducted, leaving 18,665.62 square miles, there will be 5.22 persons to a square mile. "The number of inhabitants to the " square mile in Victoria at the date of the census in 1861 was 6.2. There is now, in " 1866, an additional unit, or rather more than seven persons to the square mile. In New " South Wales, in 1861, there was rather more than one person to each square mile; and " in South Australia but four-tenths of a person to each square mile. In England and "Wales, according to last census, there were about 344 persons, on the average, to each square mile."

Comparison

The following table shows the estimated or ascertained population for the ten years from 1857 to 1866.

Y	ears.		Population.	Ye	ears.	1	Population.	
1857		_	83,612	1862	-	-	90,728	
1858	-	-	84,420	1863	-	-	91,519	
1859	-	-	86,451	1864	4	-	93,307	1
1860	-	-	88,053	1865	-	-	95,201	1
1861	-	-	90,211	1866	-	-	97,368	

* Mr. Archer's "Progress of Victoria," p. 14.

It will be seen that during the ten years the number added to the population was 13.756; that is, it had increased at the rate of 16.45 per cent. in the ten years. We cannot, of course, compare this rate with that of Victoria or New South Wales, since the conditions present in a gold-mining and an agricultural and pastoral country are so different as to make comparison useless; but it may be interesting to contrast it with the rate of increase which prevailed during a similar period in South Australia. By the census of March 31, 1855, the number of persons in South Australia was 85,821, and on the 31st December 1865 it was estimated at 156,605,—being an increase, in rather less than eleven years, of 70,784, or 82.48 per cent., or about 71 per cent. per annum, if distributed equally over that period.

Dividing the ten years given above into two quinquennial periods, we find that in the former the rate of increase was 7.89 per cent., while in the latter it was only 7.32 per cent. Of the rate of increase from births, and of decrease from deaths, I shall have occasion to speak under the head of "Vital Statistics."

The return given on the next page will show how the population was affected during Immigration the ten years by immigration and emigration. It will be seen that the number of persons and emigrawho left the Colony in that period exceeded by 1,557 those who arrived in it. Distin-tion. guishing between men, women, and children, we find that the number of men who arrived in the Colony exceeded by 388 those who departed from it; that as regards women, there was a loss to the population of 538; while the loss of children was 1,407. This exodus of women and children seems to have been caused by wives proceeding to join their husbands, who had gone to settle in other countries, and principally in Victoria. The Registrar-General of Victoria, in his essay entitled "The Progress of Victoria," of which he has obligingly furnished me with a copy, remarks that in that Colony "the "arrivals of females were in each year uniformly in excess of the departures of females;" and this circumstance tends to strengthen such a supposition. During the previous six years, from 1851 to 1856 inclusive, no less than 10,420 persons were lost to the Colony by emigration, a large proportion being able-bodied men, many of whom have never returned; and in this we shall find one very important cause of the decline of our prosperity.

For the last three years the balance of immigration and emigration has been in favour of the Colony, and 690 souls were added to our population from this source last year. Most of these, however, will no doubt appear in the next year among the departures as being visitors from the other colonies, who would return thither in the early part of the present year.

The number of immigrants who arrived in the Colony under the "Bounty System" in 1866 was 53, as against 92 in 1865, -36 of whom were from Ireland, 14 from Scotland, and only 3 from England; 35 being Roman Catholics and 18 Protestants.

DECENNIAL RETURN of Persons who arrived in and departed from the Colony between the years 1857 and 1866.

Year.		A RRI	VED.			DEPA	RTED.		Increase or Decrease by
rear.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Immigration or Emigration
857 858 859 860 861 862 863 - 864 865	3,694 2,335 1,794 1,679 2,320 1,979 2,403 2,394 2,331	1,653 1,229 916 1,141 1,040 830 847 933 913	716 439 265 612 324† 365 371 384 353‡	6,063 4,003 2,975 3,432 3,684 3,174 3,621 3,711 3,597	3,165 2,691 1,760 1,828 3,206 2,718 2,409 1,728 1,825	1,512 1,254 783 807 1,094 1,135 1,184 1,122 1,131	554 551 378 479* 561 591 817 671 553	5,231 4,496 2,921 3,114 4,861 4,444 4,410 3,521 3,509	+ 832 - 493 + 54 + 318 -1,177 -1,270 - 789 + 190 + 88
866 Totals -	3,126	1,217	426	4,769	2,337	$\begin{array}{c c} & 1,235 \\ \hline & 11,257 \end{array}$	5,662	4,079	+ 690

Decrease of Population by Emigration during the Ten Years

TASMANIA.

^{1,557}

^{*} The number given under this head in the statistics of 1860 is 379; it is corrected from the Population Return.

[†] There is a similar error in this case, which is corrected by the Return for the following year. ‡ Given in the statistics of 1865 as 253.

TASMANIA.

Customs

returns.

II .-- Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.

The most important returns under this head are those of the Customs Department. The total value of imports for the year was 942,107l., against 762,375l. in the preceding year, being an increase of 179,732l. The value of the exports was 834,606l. against 880,965l. in 1865, being a decrease of 46,359l. within the year 1866.

Adding the imports and exports together, we find that our commerce for last year

was represented by the figures 1,776,713l., and in the previous year by 1,643,340l., showing an increase of 133,373l. The imports in 1866 exceeded the exports by

The commercial relations of Tasmania with other countries in 1866 were as follows :-

	Imports.	Exports.	Proportion per	Cent. of Tota
	Imports.	19Aports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	- 253,180	344,131	26.87	41.23
TTI	- 537,878	320,626	57.09	38 · 42
	- 72,844	70,690	7.73	8.47
(1 .7 4 . 11	V	17,347	_	2.08
0 1 1	- 3,932	17,318	0.42	2.07
New Zealand	- 1,485	57,142	0.16	6.85
Mauritius -	- 67,278	6,667	7.14	0.80
Guam -		685		0.08

The imports in 1866 were at the rate of 9l. 13s. 64d. per head of the estimated population; the exports at the rate of 8l. 11s. 5\frac{1}{4}d. per head. In South Australia, in 1865, we find the rate per head of imports stated to be 161. 6s., and the exports 19l. 19s. 8\d.

Decennial results.

The following table shows the declared value of imports and exports, and the rate per head of population of each during the last ten years :-

		Immonta	Exports,	Population.	Rate per	Head of
Year		Imports.	Exports,	T opulation.	Imports.	Exports.
		£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1857	-	1,271,087	1,354,655	83,612	15 4 01	16 4 01
1858		1,328,612	1,151,609	84,420	$15 \ 14 \ 9\frac{1}{4}$	13 12 10
1859	-	1,163,907	1,193,898	86,451	$13 \ 9 \ 3\frac{1}{4}$	$13 \ 16 \ 2\frac{1}{4}$
1860	-	1,068,411	962,170	88,053	12 2 8	$10 \ 18 \ 6\frac{1}{2}$
1861	-	953,517	905,463	90,211	$10\ 11\ 4\frac{3}{4}$	10 0 1
1862	-	857,423	919,649	90,728	9 9 0	$10 \ 2 \ 8\frac{1}{2}$
1863	-	902,940	999,511	91,519	$9\ 17\ 3\frac{3}{4}$	10 18 5
1864	-	908,265	975,730	93,307	$9 \ 14 \ 8\frac{1}{4}$	$10 \ 9 \ 1\frac{3}{4}$
1865	- V	762,375	880,965	95,201	8 0 2	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
1866	-	942,107	834,606	97,368	$9 13 6\frac{1}{4}$	$8 11 5\frac{1}{4}$

From this table, comparing the first and last years of the period, we find that the imports have, during the ten years, decreased at the rate of 13.84, or nearly 14 per cent., and the exports at the rate of 38.39 per cent. If we divide this period of ten years into two quinquenniads, we shall obtain the following result :-

	Average Imports per Annum.	Average Export per Annum.
First Quinquenniad (1857-61) Second ditto (1862-6)	£ 1,157,107 874,622	£ 1,113,559 922,092
Decrease	282,485	191,467

Thus it appears that the average imports during the last five years were less than the TASMANIA. average in the first five by 24.41 per cent.; but the average exports were less in the last five than in the first five by only 17.19 per cent. There has been, therefore, a growing tendency in the imports to diminish and the exports to increase in relation one to the other; that is, we are producing more in proportion to what we consume. Putting this in another light, we observe that from 1857 to 1861 there were only two years in which the balance of trade was in our favour; while from 1862 to 1866 there were four years in which the result was favourable in that respect. From all this we gather that although our trade has been dwindling down to a most alarming extent in regard to its magnitude, it stands on a perfectly sound basis, and only requires to be fostered and developed in order to restore the Colony to its former and more than its former prosperity.

The following tables show the declared value of all the principal articles of export Exports and which were produced in the Colony during the ten years ending in 1866, and the value Imports, of the imports of articles which might have been produced in the Colony in that period. 1857-66. The amount of the imports is probably less than their real value, since there is always a temptation to the unscrupulous trader to escape, if he can, the payment of duty, and, in order to attain that object, to depreciate, in so far as his transactions with the Custom

House are concerned, the actual worth of his goods.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
	£	æ	£	£	.c	.c	£	3:	2.0	3.	e
Bark	3,551	1,118	4,756	8,240	2,425	3,348	5,283	7,528	11,570	14,461	62,280
Beef and Salt Provisions	25	90	230	15	1,218	4,622	3,995	7,254	1,074		
Bran	15,151	10,712	5,367	4,428	2,920	4,438	3,434	6,237	3,804		60,372
Butter and Cheese -	2,777	6,702	12,782	6,830	10,739	13,915	20,171	12,628	26,570		
Carts and Carriages -	7,362	2,785	1,085	2,220	2,395	1,234	2,881	1,370	780		
Bread Stuffs	183,631	159,510	197,334	93,472	122,362	88,515	84,723	95,745	31,203		1,096,482
Oats and Barley	158,955	108,265	95,172	108,375	82,852	66,900	50,812	45,441	82,455	59,406	
Hay	16,872	10,345	3,765	886	2,696	9,821	10,335	9,245	5,822	4,825	
Hides, Skins, and Leather	11,318	5,417	10,079	9,510	13,796	9,722	9,440	7,891	12,412	12,617	
Hops	1,306	1,020	2,550	3,865	4,135	5,000	3,375	4,595	6,695		
Horses	79,745	40,150	52,595	42,065	42,284	46,730	58,520	14,510	27,890		418,930
Sheep	2,760	4,140	2,775	495	6,486	10,485	5,809	4,425			
Fruits, Green & Preserved	46,575	74,394	61,990	56,203	50,816	51,838	76,031	108,576	86,452	86,575	
Whale Oil and Bone -	45,441	44,473	63,205	57,080	60,230	59,245	30,179	19,925			
Stone	11,651	6,495	2,740	5,795	7,895	2,540	6,620	4,560			
Timber	133,773	109,901	80,972	73,726	55,850	62,231	69,856	81,265			
Vegetables	61,373	50,369	29,586	49,707	32,905	34,842	62,871	44,969			
Wool	393,646		467,968	368,192	326,413	366,350	407,844	415,891	381,625		3,910,867
Seeds, Plants, and Trees	553	1,386	1,667	1,988	1,990	3,027	4,304	4,167			
Total	1,176,465	1,034,805	1,096,618	893,092	830,407	844,803	916,483	896,222	830,540	792,188	9,311,623

In 1863, Bacon to the value of 5,470l.; also Cattle, 9,993l. In 1864, Cattle, 4,482l., chiefly to New Zealand. In 1866 there were also exported Oysters and Crayfish to the value of 1,095l.; also Pigs to the value of 2,328l.

IMPORTS.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Beef and Provisions -	28,436	15,152	22,016	14,669	14,062	8,026	9,090	8,851	4,314	7,225	131,841
Butter and Cheese -	24,489	8,594	6,669	5,273	1,563	1,572	1,208	1,433	156	965	51,922
Candles and Tallow -	16,880	14,173	12,273	13,288	10,214	3,356	13,010	8,990	6,349	13,042	116,575
Carts and Carriages -	5,953	3,699	5,133	5,273	2,985	514	766	1,405	1,600	1,150	
Coal	23,568	23,215	16,561	17,596	13,618	7,287	14,315	8,274	10,332	11,224	155,990
Bread Stuffs	4,808	6,411	6,519	7,542	3,912	618	1,955	34,700	28,004	16,756	111,225
Oats and Barley	5,746	3,620	4,120	720	667	3,058	410	640		4,377	23,508
Hops	6,960	6,933	4,186	2,259	3,549	3,323	6,581	5,605	4,758	5,467	49,621
Cattle	72,278	75,733	64,520	60,051	48,692	46,130	40,969	47,760	29,165	14,570	499,859
Sheep	42,235	31,625	23,885	40,542	30,807	18,900	17,140	14,470	8,418	15,944	243,966
Malt	15,128	10,401	4,768	1,063	5,422	*2,467	3,271	1,338		1,613	
Malt Liquor	44,884	39,747	28,828	28,491	21,651	21,021	19,389	15,788	15,694		243,720
Rope and Twine	4,369	4,164	3,440	4,920	3,201	4,304	7,120	7,075	4,027	4,017	46,637
Soap	8,919	2,954	5,035	10,874	3,994	1,963	1,887	2,452		758	43,219
Chicory	_	-	_		-	683	783	1,920		1,249	5,718
Hides, Skins, & Leather	1,106	3,620	6,066	4,552	2,766	3,506	3,327	3,787	3,310		37,253
Total	305,759	250,041	214,019	217,113	167,103	144,728	141,212	164,488	119,542	111,797	1,835,802

* There are errors in the Returns for both Ports for this year which are here corrected.

As regards the exports, we find that that of bark has largely increased. Bran has, on the other hand, largely decreased, the value in 1857 being 15,151l, in 1866 only 3,881l. On beef and salt provisions there is an increase. Butter and cheese also show a large increase, amounting to about $726\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. There is not one of the Australian Colonies that is at all comparable to Tasmania in regard to the conditions favourable to dairy farming; and there is, therefore, an unlimited market open to us for all produce of

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this kind. The refuse milk and curd might be used in feeding pigs, for which, I am informed, there is a large demand in Melbourne. There is a wide field in this direction for the exercise of enterprise, with little or no necessity for the outlay of capital; and the small farmer could not, probably, easily find any object to which he might more profitably turn his attention than this. The export of breadstuffs shows, on the other hand, a very large diminution, -- no less than 78 per cent. Oats and barley also show a decrease, having declined to the extent of about $62\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The exports of hay have also fallen to about one-quarter of what they were ten years ago. If this had been accompanied by a corresponding growth of root crops, it would have been a matter for congratulation, as indicating the commencement of a better system of farming; but a reference to the quantity of land under this description of crop proves that such was not the case, at least to any appreciable extent. As regards horses, whale oil and bone, stone, timber, vegetables, and carts and carriages, there has also been a large decrease. Hides, skins, and leather, and wool, show a small increase; hops, fruit (green and preserved), jam, and seeds, plants, and trees, on the contrary, a large increment. Sheep are among the latter class, but a considerable proportion has been sent to New Zealand, I believe, to stock stations there belonging to residents in this Colony; and therefore, as far as such proportion is concerned, they can hardly be considered exports in the ordinary course of trade. The value of all the articles enumerated in this table in 1857 was 1,176,4651., and in 1866 only 792,1881., the difference amounting to 32.66

The value of all the imports in the above table is 1,835,802*l*.; and a comparison between the first and last years of the decade shows a falling off of 63:43 per cent. The decrease affects all the articles, except breadstuffs, rope, and twine (taking the first and last five years for comparison), chicory, and hides, skins, and leather. As regards the last item, we have seen that the exports have increased, and the imports also show an increase. This is to be accounted for by the fact that a large quantity of kangaroo leather is sent out of the Colony to other markets where (particularly in England) it is in great request; and leather of foreign manufacture has, I presume, taken its place for

home use. The leather trade seems, therefore, to be in a healthy condition.

I have included chicory in the table of imports not because it holds, at present, any important place, considered in reference to the amount, but because I wished to direct attention to the question of its production. It is but a few years since it came into use in these Colonies; and as the demand will probably increase, it is worth while considering whether it might not be grown here for the supply of our own and the Australian markets. It is with the same view that I call attention to the imports of rope and twine.* Besides our own consumption, it will be seen that there is a demand for a large quantity in the other colonies. Such a manufacture would encourage the growth of hemp and flax, and might find employment for a considerable number of our juvenile population.

Among the imports of the Australian Colonies for the year 1865 I find the following:

	Victoria.	New South Wales.	South Australia.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Bran	- 29,021	6,742		35,763
Beef and Pork	2,935	3,645	5,575	12,155
Bacon and Hams	- 48,692	14,394	10,337	73,423
Bread Stuffs	- 921,261	807,289	12,439*	1,740,989
Butter and Cheese	- 111,511	3,564	8,269	123,344
Chicory	- 3,707	6,581	900	11,188
Coal	- 145,881	_	63,004†	208,885
Cordage and Rope	- 33,075	44,435	12,370	89,880
Hops	- 48,179	11,143	14,286	73,608
Live Stock, viz. :—Horses, Horned Cattle, Shee and Pigs.	p, 601,855‡	15,094	40,858	657,807
Malt	- 125,721	21,892	14,043	161,656
Malt Liquors	- 340,318	273,846	67,150	681,314
Dats and Barley	- 99,730	451		100,181
Γimber§	- 197,870	64,067	136,922	398,859
Vegetables, viz. :—Onions and Potatoes -	- 48,270	43,167	30,847	122,284
	2,758,026	1,316,310	417,000	4,491,336

^{*} Oats and Barley are not distinguished from other kinds of Grain. † Including Coke and other Fuel. ‡ Chiefly from New South Wales. § Deals, when so distinguished, are excluded.

^{*} There were, in 1866, only two rope manufactories in the Colony.

Confining our attention chiefly to Victoria and New South Wales, as being the Tasmania. nearest, and therefore the most conveniently situated for the purposes of trade, we find that the former imported articles which might be supplied by this Colony to the extent of 2,758,026l. in the year; the latter to the extent of 1,316,310l. In regard to nearly all these articles, except live stock, it is quite as convenient for Victoria to procure them from this island as from the ports of New South Wales, or, if from Launceston, much more so; and our facilities of trade with her are, therefore, cæteris paribus, equal or superior to those of New South Wales. Bacon and hams, breadstuffs, butter and cheese, malt, malt liquors, oats and barley, timber and vegetables, would of themselves, if we could successfully compete with our neighbours in their production, be a copious source of wealth to this Colony. Our commerce is capable of great expansion, if only it be Impediments not impeded by mischievous and delusive restrictions on the part of our neighbours or ourselves. It must be acknowledged that the protective policy, which has been growing into favour with certain classes in some of the Colonies, is calculated greatly to retard the development of our resources; but it may be hoped that the arguments of abler political economists, and the warning example of the American States will before long induce those who now cling to this fond but fatal delusion to adopt sounder commercial principles. Among nations, as among individuals, there can be no such thing as independence of others. Each must look to others for the supply of a portion of his wants; and he, in turn, is called upon to reciprocate the advantages which he receives; so that any interruption to the freest interchange of those things which are requisite for our necessities or convenience must be prejudicial as much to the one party as the other. It may be safely predicted that any country which resorts to protection as a fancied means of fostering its native industries will, in the end, thus destroy the very thing which it designs to protect and cherish.

It would seem to be greatly to the advantage of this whole group of Colonies if the inequalities in the customs duties of each of them were so far removed as to permit a freer interchange of commodities among them. Just as in grafting a tree the object of the operator is to fit the stock and scion together so closely that the sap shall flow from one into the other unconscious of any division; so in regard to commerce our design should be, I apprehend, so to equalize the conditions present in each of the Colonies that supply and demand may follow their natural laws and necessities, unchecked by any local causes or arbitrary restraints. An absolutely uniform tariff for the whole group is scarcely to be hoped for, and perhaps, considered in the light of local circumstances, is hardly to be desired; but it seems evident that the nearer we approach such a result, the greater will be our common prosperity. The course of trade may be compared to the blood circulating in the veins and arteries of an animal. Whatever, even in the finest and remotest capillaries, checks the free circulation of the vital fluid produces pain and disease, and until the impediment is removed health cannot be restored.

The Intercolonial Free Trade Bill, which was passed during the last Session of our Intercolonial Parliament, and is now awaiting Her Majesty's pleasure, enunciates, with Legislative Free Trade authority, the principles which I have attempted to lay down; and will, doubtless, if the Bill. other Colonies (or at least the two nearest) can be induced to carry out its provisions, prove of immense advantage in promoting the growth of our trade. It is much to be hoped that this measure may pave the way for the adoption of a more liberal and enlightened commercial policy in the Colonies which may become parties to it, and of a more harmonious action in regard to matters affecting their common interests. The late Intercolonial Exhibition, and others which will, doubtless, be held hereafter, may also be expected to conduce to this result.

The returns of shipping show that during the past year 20 vessels entered inwards Shipping. from the United Kingdom, 619 from other British Colonies, and 4 from the United States,—together 643 vessels, with a tonnage of 107,903. Compared with the returns of 1865, there is an increase on the total of 3 vessels, and on the tonnage of 7,627. When we examine the corresponding returns for the last ten years, we find that there has been a gradual decrease year by year (taking the first and last years of the period) amounting to 378 vessels, representing 56,105 tons; that is, the number of shipping inwards has decreased by 37 per cent. The decline in our foreign trade, as shown by this return, is very remarkable. In 1857, 23 foreign vessels entered our harbours; in 1865 and 1866, only 3. A comparison of the totals in the first and last five years of the period from 1857 (as shown in the subjoined statement) proves that the average number of vessels in the former was 895 per annum; in the latter, only 720. The returns of shipping outwards do not seem to require particular notice.

DECENNIAL RETURN of SHIPPING entered INWARDS and OUTWARDS from the Year 1857 to 1866.

					Inward	s.							(Outward	ls.	(
		British	Mill		Foreign	n.!		Total.			British.	edit 9	17	Foreig	n.		Total.	
Year.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Yessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865	998 958 826 802 792 726 765 797 637 643	156,560 143,749 118,028 114,619 113,969 104,651 113,984 120,449 99,214 107,903	11,177 10,199 8,642 8,396 8,311 7,409 7,577 7,563 6,638 7,516	23 15 12 4 8 8 10 10 3 3	7,448 4,198 4,084 1,553 2,718 3,013 3,697 4,250 1,062 1,009	391 262 186 99 173 200 235 228 77 91	1,021 973 877 806 800 734 775 807 640 643	164,008 147,947 129,201 116,172 116,687 107,664 117,681 124,699 100,276 107,903	11,568 10,461 9,363 8,495 8,484 7,609 7,812 7,791 6,715 7,516	1,008 972 849 814 792 747 762 785 674 629	159,885 143,267 122,397 116,825 114,087 106,218 113,003 119,023 103,156 105,056	11,329 10,289 8,932 8,496 8,492 7,543 7,460 7,705 6,913 7,420	24 13 8 3 8 7 8 12 3	7,673 3,597 2,692 1,418 2,611 2,697 3,140 4,768 1,062 1,009	415 223 142 93 174 181 187 285 77 88	1,032 985 857 818 800 754 770 797 677 632	167,058 146,864 125,089 118,243 116,698 108,915 116,143 123,791 104,218 106,065	11,744 10,512 9,074 8,589 8,666 7,724 7,647 7,990 6,990 7,508

The number of registered steamers belonging to ports in this Colony appear to show an increase of two iron steamers, with a tonnage of 197. The return of registered vessels generally for the past year has been put into a more convenient form than heretofore, and

will be available for future comparison.

The return of vessels belonging to this Colony employed in the whale fisheries has been revived, having been discontinued for many years. It will be seen that this branch of Colonial industry employed 9 vessels, with a tonnage of 2,257, and 229 men. The quantity of oil taken was 380 tons, valued at 38,000l., or 100l. per ton. I regret that the statistical returns do not afford the means of comparing the extent of our whaling operations for any continuous period; but I find that in 1851 the number of vessels employed was 21; in 1852, 18; and in the following year only 7, the value of the oil and bone in those three years being, respectively, 53,445l., 42,990l., and 26,743l.

I have added a return of the quantity and value of coal raised for sale during the year, which, I believe, will be found interesting. Appraising the coal at its market value, it appears that this commodity added 13,036l. to the wealth of the Colony. I see no reason why coal may not become a considerable article of export. It will have been seen that Victoria and South Australia are dependent, to a large extent, on foreign markets for their supply of this description of fuel; and it is a question for the consideration of those interested, whether Tasmania might not advantageously compete with other countries in

this direction.

On comparing the retail prices of provisions for the two last years, it will be observed that bread is returned as 1d. per pound cheaper in the latter, and flour 13s. per cwt. cheaper, or 50 per cent. Butter, potatoes, sugar, tobacco were also cheaper; while brandy, candles, cheese, and butcher's meat were dearer.

III .- FINANCE.

General revenue.

The receipts of the General Revenue in 1866 (excluding the balance from 1865) were 245,421l. 10s. 2d., of which 129,310l. 12s. were derived from Customs duties, and 47,053l. 2s. from sources classed as "Inland Revenue." The expenditure was 242,361l. 7s. 6d., classed under the following heads:—

ou., classed under the following medias		å	S.	a_{\bullet}
Expenditure under general estimates	-	118,900	8	4
Ditto under local estimates	10	63,463	2	10
Special disbursements		31,592		
		213,956	3	9
Arrears of former years	•	28,405	3	9
		242,361	7	6
			Name and Address of the Owner, where the Owner, which is the Owner, where the Owner, where the Owner, where the Owner, where the Owner, which is the	PROGRESSION .

The receipts of the Land Fund (excluding the balance, as before) were 88,342l. 11s. 8d., and fund. composed of the

the following sums:—				£		d.
Sales of Crown Lands	-	- 10 - 3	-	53,067	0	11
Rent of ditto	-		69	9,223	4	8
Fees		-	-	2,113	1	1
Debentures sold, &c.			-	23,939	5	0
				88,342	11	0
				88,342	11	0

Whale fisheries.

Coal.

Prices of provisions.

The expenditure under the several heads was as follows:-

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				£	S.	d.
Ordinary services		-	100	42,139	7	4
Debentures redeemed -			21	13,900	0	0
New schools, and immigration			-	1,108	1	9
Public Works-Roads, Bridges,	&c.	-	-	46,474	0	2
Arrears of 1865			•	3,119	9	7
				106,740	18	10

. Comparing these results with those of the previous year, there appears to have been Comparative an increase of 9,849l. 14s. 9d. on the Customs, and 3,643l. 13s. 9d. on the Internal results. On the total general expenditure there is apparently an increase of 23,366l. 18s. 9d., which seems (to a large extent, at least) to be accounted for by the

difference in the mode of adjusting the accounts adopted in the two years.

As regards the land fund there is a falling off on the receipts from the sales of land of 6,311*l*. 10s. 2d.; on those for the rent of land of 170*l*. 7s. 6d.; and on fees, &c., of 484*l*. 17s. 4d. The proceeds of debentures, &c., in both years are so nearly equal as not to require any particular notice. The total Expenditure shows a decrease of 27,720*l*. 14s. 3d. upon that of 1865; but, on the other hand, there was brought to account in that year a repayment of 30,500*l*. to the Imperial Government, so that in reality there would be an increase in 1866 of 2,779l. 5s. 9d.

The receipts under fixed heads of revenue, for the nine years from 1858 to 1866 inclusive,

are shown in the subjoined abstract.

37					General F	Rever	nue							L	and	l Re	venue.						// / I T		
Yea	r.	Cust	oms.		Inland R	even	ue.	Tot	al.		Sales of Lar	-	own	Rent of Lan		own	Fees f			То	tal.		Total Re from both		
		£	s.	d.	£	S.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d
858	-	134,608	0	6	61,226	16 1	0	195,834	17	4	44,664	7	9	23,854	0	7	5,548	2	0	74,066		4	269,901	7	8
1859	**	123,300	19	11	62,987	8	8	186,288	8	7	52,611	14	10	22,153	10	10	3,836	9	6	78,601	15	2	264,890	3	9
1860	-	118,348	15	9	63,265	11	0	181,614	6	9	57,744	7	4	21,041	16	1	3,599	19	7	82,386	3	0	264,000	9	9
861	-	112,319	2	7	59,600	7	3	171,919	9	10	58,969	7	2	18,750	9	10	3,175	2	6	80,894	19	6	252,814	9	4
862	-	130,835	0	9	56,765	4	0	187,600	4	9	48,315	18	2	14,976	11	5	3,131	4	5	66,423	14	0	254,023	18	9
863	-	135,825	14	11	46,226	9	4	182,052	4	3	52,737	6	6	13,644	11	9	2,139	11	3	68,521	9	6	250,573	13	9
864	**	127,099	2	1	46,275	9	1	173,374	11	2	77,818	3	1	12,065	6	4	3,331	13	10	93,215	3	3	266,589	14	5
865		119,460	17	3	43,409	8	3	162,870	5	6	59,378	11	- 1	9,393	12	2	2,400	2	5	71,172	5	8	234,042	11	2
866	-	129,310	12	0	47,053	2	0	176,363	14	0	53,067	0	11	9,223	4	8	2,135	15	1	64,426	0	8	240,789		8

As regards the general revenue, there is a decrease on the nine years (omitting fractions) of 19,471, or 9.94 per cent. The decrease on the customs amounts to 5,297l., or 3.93 per cent.; and on the inland revenue to 14,174l., or 23.15 per cent. Excluding 1858, and dividing the remaining years into two quarternions, it appears that in the latter the customs revenue had increased to the extent of 26,892*l*., or at an average rate, if spread equally over the four years, of 6,723*l*. per annum. The inland revenue, on the contrary, when treated in the same way, is found to have declined to the extent of 59,654*l*., or at an average rate of 14,913*l*. per annum.

Referring to the land fund, we find it fluctuates so much as to make any comparison between single years worthless. Confining it, therefore, to the first and last four years of the period from 1859 inclusive, the decrease on the total revenue will be found to be 10,972l., or at the average rate of 2,743l. per annum. The further investigation of this decrease, in reference to the separate items, will be more properly treated under the head

of "Crown Lands, Agriculture, &c."

The General and Land Revenue, added together and treated as before, shows a decline on the last four years of 43,733l., or 10,933l. on an average per annum.

The commissariat expenditure during the year 1866 amounted to 56,460l. 9s. 10d.

The banking returns show, at the end of the year, a total of assets amounting to 1,255,447l. 3s. 11d., against a total of liabilities of 714,685l. 17s. 8d.; the balance of assets being 540,761l. 6s. 3d. The amount of specie in the banks was 165,412l. 10s. 6d.,

being an excess of 89,406l. 9s. 1d. over the value of the notes in circulation.

The statement which follows shows the combined operations of the banks during the last ten years. The assets have decreased at the rate of 37.84 per cent.; the liabilities at the rate of 47.68 per cent. The notes in circulation have declined from 160,230l. to 77,769l., or 51.46 per cent.; and the amount deposited from 1,205,654l. to 636,916l. or 47.17 per cent.

Commis-

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			Assets.			Liabilities.	
Years	s.	Coin and Bullion.	All other Assets.	Totals.	Notes and Bills in circulation.	Deposits, &c.	Totals.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
1857	_	501,211	1,518,662	2,019,873	160,230	1,205,654	1,365,884
1858	-	343,073	1,529,224	1,872,297	144,057	1,051,531	1,195,588
1859	-	270,195	1,633,047	1,903,242	141,314	991,276	1,132,590
1860	-	280,503	1,561,660	1,842,163	134,701	814,315	949,016
1861	- 1	223,328	1,343,961	1,567,289	117,543	729,085	846,628
1862	-	199,609	1,302,511	1,502,120	104,125	734,169	838,294
1863	-	164,494	1,251,774	1,416,268	104,062	722,846	826,908
1864	-	167,901	1,177,953	1,345,854	94,676	662,270	756,946
1865	-	174,358	1,091,078	1,265,436	90,474	634,022	724,496
1866	-	165,412	1,090,035	1,255,447	77,769	636,916	714,685

Savings banks.

The return in reference to the Savings Banks is now presented for the first time, as is the case with the greater part of the returns which follow. A comparison of the results for the last 10 years does not show any striking variation, and I have, therefore, not deemed it necessary to encumber this report with a return for that period.

The assets at the end of the second half-year (31st August) were 217,352l. 4s. 7d., and the liabilities the same. In the first half-year the amount withdrawn at Hobart Town (the information not being supplied for Launceston) exceeded the deposits by 3,278l. 13s. 11d.; while in the latter the deposits exceeded the repayments by

2,479l. 6s. 11d.

Post office money orders.

Post office money orders were issued in 1866 to the amount 11,274l. 19s. 3d., and paid to the amount of 8,669l. 11s. 5d. The system was only in operation during the eight latter months of 1865, and in order to compare the progress of the system in the two years it will be necessary to calculate the amount for the whole of 1865, on the supposition that the same law prevailed throughout the year. This will give an increase in 1866 of 1,255 in the number of orders issued, and of 5,294l. 17s. 8d. in the amount represented, being at the rate of 88½ per cent. upon the latter. A considerable part of this increase is attributable to the fact that during 1866 seven additional offices for the issue and payment of money orders were established in country districts. The amount of commission received and credited to the revenue of this Colony was 235l. 15s. 2d.

Public debt.

The amount of debentures outstanding on the 31st December 1866, was 553,230/... which is at the rate of 5l. 13s. $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per head of the estimated population on that day. The rate per head of public indebtedness in Victoria, in 1865, was 13l. 16s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$. (excluding 60,000*l*. due to the bank, as not being a permanent debt); in New South Wales, 11*l*. 10*s*. $10\frac{3}{4}d$.; and in South Australia, 5*l*. 1*s*. $8\frac{1}{4}d$. In comparing the relative indebtedness of different countries, however, it is necessary that we should take into account the objects for which it was incurred, since it is evident that the amount of debt, as well in the case of nations as in that of individuals, may be taken as a measure either of adversity or prosperity, in proportion as it is incurred to make up current deficiencies of revenue, or for the improvement of the estate, public or private, as the case may be.

Taxes, duties, &c. The schedule of taxes, duties, and other sources of public revenue, which now appears among the statistical returns for the first time, will, I doubt not, be found very useful for purposes of reference. It is not as yet altogether complete, and probably there may be omissions of which I am at present unaware; but I trust in time to render it more perfect.

Public works.

The statements of public works executed during the year will probably obviate the necessity for Parliamentary Returns in reference to that subject.

IV.--ESTABLISHMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS MAINTAINED OR ASSISTED BY GOVERNMENT.

Object of

It seemed to me that practical convenience would be better consulted by placing all classification. these returns together under one head than by distributing them through the volume according to a more philosophic, but artificial, classification.

Post office.

At the head of these returns stands the Post Office. Since 1858 the number of post offices and receiving houses has increased from 95 to 121; the number of miles of post roads from 873 to 1,073; the number of letters received from 347,889 to 433,446; the

number sent from 314,812 to 380,211; the number of town and district letters (not TASMANIA. included in the foregoing) from 62,029 to 96,757. The number of newspapers received has decreased from 401,770 to 326,392 (though in 1863 it fell to 305,314); the number despatched has also decreased from 874,998 to 775,277. The smallest number of newspapers despatched was in 1861, when it was only 596,844. The post office revenue during the last 10 years shows but little fluctuation, although in the last two years it has somewhat increased; while the expenditure has sensibly decreased, the average for the first five years of the period being 16,052l. per annum, and for the last 14,317l. The charge against the revenue on account of the post office is, therefore, every year becoming less.

The returns relating to the several penal and charitable establishments will, I Penal and venture to hope, be found of great use. The distribution of the liability of maintenance charitable between the two Governments must, probably, be regarded rather as an approximation to institutions. the respective amounts than as an exact and final result, inasmuch as it has been arrived at (except in the case of Port Arthur) in anticipation of the settlement of the accounts between those Governments, and may therefore be somewhat modified when that settlement has been effected.

The expense of the penal and charitable establishments (so far as they can be thus distinguished) to the Imperial and Colonial Governments, respectively, may be summarised as follows:-

		(Charge	eable to		
	Imperial Go	verr	ment.	Colonial Go	overi	nment.
PENAL. Port Arthur Gaol for Males, Hobart Town - Gaol for Females, ditto - Gaol, Launceston	£ 13,004 216 387 33	1 8	0 9 4	£ 12,873 4,797 2,755 3,935	11 11 7	$d.$ 11 4 $6\frac{1}{2}$ $5\frac{1}{2}$
	13,641	18	$8\frac{1}{2}$	24,362	2	3
CHARITABLE. General Hospital, Hobart Town Ditto, Launceston* - Lunatic Asylum, New Norfolk Hospital, Campbell Town - Queen's Asylum Brickfield's Pauper Establishment Reformatory for Females - Benevolent Societies Ragged Schools	472 745 1,607 3,298	9	$\begin{array}{c} 2\frac{1}{2} \\ 4\frac{3}{4} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ \end{array}$	6,703 2,593 5,695 272 8,255 3,985 100 1,354 200	11 18 10 7 10 0 7	$ \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ 0 \\ 10 \\ \hline{2} \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{array} $
	6,124	1	$7\frac{3}{4}$	29,161	3	10
Total	£19,766	0	$4\frac{1}{4}$	£53,523	6	1

^{*} The Surgeon-Superintendent was unable to state what portion of the expenditure was chargeable to the Imperial Government; but from the Report of the Board, which was received afterwards, it appears that 22 patients were wholly or partially so charge-able, the proportion has, therefore, been taken as 22 to 98½.

The cost of these institutions is, therefore, rather more than one-sixth of the whole ordinary expenditure from both the general and land revenues, and it is at the rate of eleven shillings per head for the whole population. It will be interesting to compare this expenditure (so far as it is possible to do so) with that for similar services in the Australian Colonies. What the cost of the penal establishments in South Australia is I have not been able to discover, but that of the charitable institutions for 1865 appears to have been 21,676l. 14s. 1d., which is only about one thirty-sixth of the consolidated revenue,—while here the same item forms about one-twelfth, or three times as much. In New South Wales (which like this, was a penal colony) the expenditure for 1865 was, for penal establishments, 53,098l.; for charitable institutions, 61,966l., or nearly one thirty-third and one twenty-eighth, respectively, of the consolidated revenue. In Victoria the expenditure for penal establishments for 1866 was estimated to be 82,9261.; * the cost of charitable institutions to the Government in 1865 was 66,3781.,

^{*} Deducting 2,2151. for inspector and clerks, in order to carry the same principle throughout the com-

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or about one forty-second and one fifty-second part, respectively, of the consolidated

expenditure for the latter year.*

There can be no question that the greater part (perhaps three-fourths) of the expenditure under these heads in this Colony is due to the presence, in former times, of offenders transported hither by the Imperial Government. As there are still found some who assert that the cessation of transportation was prejudicial to the interests of the community, it may be well to remark that three-fourths of the sum before mentioned represents, at 6 per cent., a capital sum of 669,033l.; so that, in effect, for the temporary advantage derived from the employment of compulsory labour, and a considerable Imperial expenditure, we are now permanently burdened with a debt the interest of which at the present time may be said to amount to 40,000l., and is still increasing in proportion to the destitution of the poorer or more vicious classes.

Under the heads of "Municipalities," "Road Trusts," and "Boards of Works" (the last being entirely a new return), a large amount of information not hitherto supplied has been given. The labour bestowed on the collection, revision, and compilation of these returns has been very great, and I hope that the value of the result may be in pro-

Works. portion to it.

V.—Crown Lands, Agriculture, and Live Stock.

Crownlands sold.

Municipali-

ties, Road Trusts, and Boards of

> From the second of these returns it will be seen that out of 397, the whole number of country lots of Crown land sold in 1866, 158, or 39.8 per cent., were of and under 50 acres; 120, or 30.23 per cent., were of and under 100 acres; 82, or 20.65 per cent., were of and under 500 acres; and 37, or 9.32 per cent., were above 500 acres. The largest number of lots sold in any one country was in Devon, being 94, as against 56, the next largest, in Dorset.

Decennial

results.

The total extent of Crown land sold during 1866 was :- Country lots, 61,368a. Or. 3p., as against 90,723a. 2r. 37p. in 1865; town and suburban lots, 922a. 0r. 1p., as against 1,390a. 1r. 8p. in 1865. The average price per acre obtained for country lands rose from 11s. in 1865 to 11s. 7½d. in 1866; while the average price of town and suburban lands

declined from 5l. 11s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$. to 3l. 18s. 2d. per acre.

The abstract of the land returns for the last ten years is given below. The country lots sold during the first five years of that period averaged 63,569 acres per annum, and in the latter five years 81,970 acres, being an increase of 18,401 acres per annum, or 28.95 per cent. The town and suburban lots sold, averaged in the first five years 1,814 acres per annum; in the latter five years only 911, being a decrease of 49.78 per

Yea	r		Country Lot	s.	Tow	n and Subur	ban Lots.	Held under Depasturing Licences.		
		Number of Acres sold.	Amount for which sold.	Average Price per Acre.		Amount for which sold.	Average Price per Acre.	Number of Acres.	Rental.	
1857		7,226	£ 11,197	£ s. d. 1 10 $11\frac{3}{4}$	2,167	£ 24,331	£ s. d. 11 4 $6\frac{1}{3}$	1,901,157	£ 25,474	
1858 1859		45,059 74,598	52,833 78,978	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2,820 2,062	20,616 19,609	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1,778,751 1,751,051	23,854 22,307	
1860	-	90,849	107,910	1 3 9	1,172	8,026	$6\ 17\ 0\frac{3}{4}$	1,830,017	21,131	
1861	Mal .	100,114	100,517	$1 0 0\frac{3}{4}$	848	3,878	$4\ 11\ 5\frac{1}{4}$	2,064,268	19,027	
1862	-	39,569	45,400	$1 \ 2 \ 11\frac{1}{4}$	479	2,428	$5 1 4\frac{1}{2}$	1,814,291	15,327	
1863	11 10	78,080	59,037	$0 \ 15 \ 1\frac{1}{2}$	491	5,040	10 5 $3\frac{1}{2}$	2,187,249	13,907	
1864		140,108	108,251	$0 \ 15 \ 5\frac{1}{2}$	1,273	7,546	$5 \ 18 \ 6\frac{1}{2}$	2,391,953	12,180	
1865	-	90,723	49,945	0 11 0	1,390	7,770	$5 \ 11 \ 9\frac{1}{2}$	2,274,799	9,604	
1866		61,368	35,623	0 11 $7\frac{1}{2}$	922	3,604	3 18 2	2,251,071	9,303	

Rental from Crown lands.

To the ordinary returns relating to Crown lands another has been added showing the number of acres rented, and the amount of rental, from the year 1842 inclusive. This will afford abundant matter for careful and earnest attention. It appears that 1847† was the first year in which we obtained any considerable revenue from the leasing of the We then derived 14,279l. from this source, the number of acres being 1,062,989,

^{*} The expenditure (3,490,673l.) was obtained from the Registrar-General's data, "Progress of Victoria," p. 60.

[†] This appears to have been the result of the regulations made in that year (vide Gazette, June 15, 1847), by which the minimum rental was fixed at 11, per 100 acres.

which gives an average rental of 1l. 6s. 1014d. per 100 acres. The acreage and rental TASMANIA. continued to increase until 1853, when the 2,314,414 acres thus occupied produced a revenue of 29,570l., being at the rate of 1l. 5s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. per 100 acres. From this point the quantity of land rented has (excluding the islands, which must be viewed in a somewhat different light) continuously been decreasing, with the single exception of the year 1861, when it was slightly augmented; but the amount of rental has, without one exception, been declining from year to year until the present time. In 1866 we find the acreage had dwindled down to 1,369,771, and the rental to 8,564l., which is at the rate of only 12s. 6d. per 100 acres. This result is, of course, partly attributable to the fact that a considerable proportion of the best lands has been sold, and the remainder available for rental is not so valuable as in former years; but making all due allowance for this cause, the declension of this portion of the land revenue from 29,570l. to 8,564l. in a period of 13 years induces the belief that the land systems of 1847 and 1851 were better than those by which they have been superseded. If the Crown lands can be made to yield a considerable permanent revenue, it is evident that relief might be afforded to that extent from taxation; and thus more capital would be available for the development of our resources. But in order to bring about such a result it would be necessary to make the tenure of land rented from the Crown more secure, and thus to encourage the lessees to make improvements. Such improvements would enhance the value of the public estate, and it might be worth consideration whether drainage, irrigation, and other similar works, as regards unalienated lands (as, for instance, in the lake country), might not be executed by the Government, the interest of the amount expended being charged to the lessees (supposing them to agree to the arrangement) in proportion to the quantity of land occupied by them.

Subjoined is a synopsis of the returns, for the last ten years, of the number of acres Agricultural of land under cultivation and in crop, and the number of acres of new land broken up decennial

during each year.

/ Year.		Number of Acres in Crop.	Number of Acres in Cultivation not included in the foregoing.	Total Number of Acres in a State of Cultivation.	Number of Acres of new Land broken up during the Year.
1857 -		134,277*	71,843*	206,120*	
1858 -		147,455	82,034	229,489	
1859 -	-	140,635	67,984	208,619	7,293
1860 -	-	152,860	65,455	218,315	7.775
1861 -	-	163,385	84,499	247,884†	7,894
1862 -	-	157,541	95,509	253,050	6.787
1863 -	-	170,601	96,572	267,173	7.793
1864 -	-	158,544	92,292	250,836	5.807
1865 -	-	159,547	90,839	250,386	8,183
1866 -		167,866	111,156	279,022	7.908

^{*} These numbers are taken from the comparative statement for the following year, which differ from those of 1857, and may be

† There appears to be an error in the returns for this year. The addition is here corrected.

In the last five years as compared with the first five, the number of acres in crop appears to have increased at the rate of 10.22 per cent.; the number of acres in a state of cultivation, but not in crop, at the rate of 30.81 per cent.; and the total acreage under both the preceding classes at the rate of 17:11 per cent.

The number of acres under each description of crop is given on the next page, a few items, such as beans, tares, &c., being omitted, as bearing but a small proportion to the

other crops.

The ratio borne by each description of produce to the total acreage in crop is :- Ratios of Wheat, 42.5 per cent.; barley, 2.74; oats, 13.5; peas, 2.17; potatoes, 6.26; English crops. grasses (for seed), 3.21; hay, 20.1; root crops, only 1.56; tobacco, 0.128.

In Victoria (1865-6) the ratios were: - Wheat, 34 per cent.; oats, 19; barley, 1.3;

potatoes, 6; hay, 18; green forage, $10\frac{1}{2}$.

In Great Britain, in the same period, the ratios were:—Corn crops (including rye, beans, and peas), 32.4; green crops (including potatoes, turnips, mangolds, carrots, cabbage, kohl-rabi, rape, vetches, lucerne, &c.), 12.4; clover and artificial and other grasses under rotation, 12.9; permanent pasture, meadow, or grass not broken up in rotation (exclusive of hill pastures), 38.9. Adopting as nearly as circumstances will admit the same classification here, we shall obtain from the returns for 1866 the following ratios:—Corn crops, 68.5; green crops, 8.1; grass and hay, 23.4. It will be seen that the quantity of land under corn here is more than double that in Britain, while the land

in green crops is very much less. Such a state of things shows an urgent need of TASMANIA. agricultural reform.

Nature of crops for decenniai period.

Years.	Wheat,	Barley.	Oats.	Peas.	Potatoes.	English Grasses.	Hay.	Crops, not including Onions.	Tobacco
1857	63,357	11,735	31,940	854	7,804	11,960		5,443	
1858	50,463	10,850	47,729	1,050	8,147	8,913	41,104	2,697	97
1859	60,314	7,566	36,209	1,029	7,777	4,505	29,395	2,693	86
1860	66,450	6,238	30,303	1,047	7,621	6,125	31,837	2,760	78
1861	58,823	7,279	29,022	1,649	9,349	5,184	31,803	2,595	89
1862	60,826	9,470	31,153	1,912	9,722	5,447	35,257	2,758	152
1863	54,028	9,940	40,226	2,153	9,871	7,223	41,438	4,402	232
1864	60,186	6,320	40,987	2,891	8,438	4,162	30,992	3,032	127
1865	73,270	4,527	28,538	3,146	10,270	5,228	30,244	3,141	156
1866	71,348	4,596	34,358	3,655	10,520	5,393	33,762	2,621	216

The growth of wheat is thus shown to have largely increased; oats, peas, potatoes, and tobacco have also increased. The growth of barley has, on the other hand, decreased to a deplorable extent, considering what a wide field there is for its employment in producing malt and malt liquors, both for home consumption and export. I have already referred to this point when speaking of the imports of these articles. English grasses also show a decrease, but this may be partially owing to a change of system in compiling the returns, those for and after 1859 showing only the acreage of grass reserved "for "seed," whereas in the two first years it does not appear that any such distinction was made. The growth of hay does not seem to follow any general law. The acreage under root crops (mangolds, turnips, and carrots) shows a slight improvement on the whole: the proportion which this crop bears to the corn crop is almost infinitesimal, -and this one fact is, of itself, a sufficient condemnation of the style of agriculture

Change of system necessary.

Before agriculture can ever flourish in this Colony a total change of the present system is necessary. That system may have answered well enough in the times when the soil was new, and the labour of convicts could be had for little more than the cost of their rations. A very moderate return then paid the farmer handsomely. But now, when labourers' wages are high, and farm hands difficult to get, an entirely new style of cultivation is necessary in order to make farming profitable. Instead of scratching up the surface of the ground to a depth of three or four inches, and year after year growing the same crop, without manure, and without fallowing, the soil must be manured and better prepared, a proper rotation of crops observed, and every means taken advantage of which science and observation afford with a view to increase the fertility of the soil and diminish the cost of production. In fact, the whole principle of successful cultivation is contained in this problem,—to obtain a maximum produce at a minimum cost.

Means of effecting it.

1. By increasing the produce. (a.) Choice of crop. (b.) Economy and choice of manures.

The question, then, resolves itself into these two heads: -1. What are the means to be used in order to obtain the largest possible crop from a given quantity of land? and 2. How may the cost of production be brought within the narrowest possible limits?

I. To obtain the maximum amount of produce from a given extent of land, we must not only increase to its utmost the fertility of the soil, but take care to cultivate only such crops as are most profitable,* and to select only the most prolific varieties of seed. The most obvious means of fertilisation are, 1. Manures. Of these the ordinary stable dung is one of the most valuable and easy to be procured, the neglect of which is the great defect in our Colonial farming. The object should be by every possible means to increase the supply of this manure. With this view a considerable quantity of land should every year be put into root crops, which should be consumed on the farm, and so returned to the land. An agricultural writer save. the land. An agricultural writer says:-" The supply of manure, and consequently the " continued fertility of the soil, depend, to a very large extent, both on the skilful culture " of roots and on their economical consumption. The first thing calculated to secure "the success of root culture is deep and effective working of the soil. This ought to " be attended to in the autumn months, and in all cases a depth of 10 or 12 inches " should be aimed at, though at first it is almost impossible to give a furrow so deep

Among these tobacco seems to be well worth serious attention. There are manufactories in both Melbourne and Sydney ready to purchase the raw material at a remunerative price, which was some time since said to be one shilling a pound. The produce in New South Wales in 1862 averaged 34½ cwts. to the acre.

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" as this." Again: "On strong soils home-made manures exercise a mechanical action. "which is of very great importance; but if we wish a heavy and profitable crop, we must have recourse to those portable manures which are now so extensively used in " the best farmed districts, and with these supplement our yard dung as far as may appear "to be necessary." Farm yard dressing, guano, † lime, and bone dust are the manures used here at present, and, if judiciously employed, will probably suffice; but phosphatic guano and bone dust, when applied in their natural state, often disappoint the farmer's expectations, because a large portion of the phosphates which they contain is insoluble, or only parted with by very slow degrees. The defect, however, to a great extent can be removed by mixing them with sulphuric acid, and so converting them into super-phosphate of lime. It is the intention of a firm at Launceston, as I have understood, to undertake this branch of manufacture; and in the last Session of Parliament sulphuric acid was, with the object of facilitating the enterprise, exempted from duty on importa-There is no reason why such a manufacture might not also be established in Hobart Town; and if the sulphuric acid were also manufactured in the Colony (which might be done at a very small cost, the process being extremely simple), it would add to our resources another industry, and render the manufacture referred to more profitable. Not only might mangolds be thus generally grown and sent to market in the form of meat, but beet might also be cultivated for the purpose of making sugar. Nitrate of potash, or soda (saltpetre), is a manure which might also be well employed, especially where it could be applied in a liquid state,—that is, in situations where water is abundant. 2. Deep cultivation, fallows, and irrigation. As to the advantages of deep cultivation (c.) Deep there can be no question. Every one knows that no good garden can be made without cultivation, trenching, and it is obvious that the more nearly we can attain this standard in farm cultivation, the more successful will be the result. The object in both cases is to stir up the
subsoil and expose it to the influences of light and air, and to permit the roots of the subsoil and expose it to the influences of light and air, and to permit the roots of the plants to penetrate deeply into the soil in search of their necessary nutriment; but much judgment is, no doubt, necessary in applying the principle. Deep cultivation can be generally effected with horse power, but not nearly so beneficially as with the steam plough.

Where a sufficiency of manures cannot be readily obtained, fallowing is the best substitute, and ought to be constantly employed in such cases, as without it the soil soon becomes worn out and almost useless.

The advantages of irrigation have been so often dwelt upon in this Colony on other

occasions that there is no necessity to repeat them here.

The mode of cultivation also greatly influences the amount of produce grown. (d.) Im-Wheat, for example, when sown in drills, and kept clear of weeds by hoeing, will yield a proved modes very much larger crop and finer grain than when treated in the ordinary way; and by of cultivaadopting such a system employment might be given to many children who are now brought up in idleness and vice.

II. The question remains, " How is a given extent of land to be cultivated at the least 2. By dimin-

" possible cost?"

Of course, if by improved methods of cultivation, by growing only the most profitable cost. crops, and by selecting the most prolific varieties, we make one acre produce as much as two, we diminish the cost of production in proportion. But it is chiefly by adopting (a.) Use of every possible expedient available for the purpose of saving manual labour, and performing mechanical the largest amount of work in a given time, that the cost of production is to be diminished. appliances. South Australia would never have occupied the position she does as a grain-growing country had she not so extensively availed herself of mechanical appliances. T Steam (b.) Steam, cultivation is now being introduced into Victoria, and must soon, so far at least as the wealthier agriculturists are concerned, supersede slower and less efficient means; and unless the large landed proprietors and tenants here follow their example, they must be left far behind in the race of progress. Steam, in this age, has become a necessity; and in these Colonies, where the rate of wages is so high, and labour not always obtainable, § there is no way of compensating for these disadvantages except by employing machinery,

ishing the

† The number of acres of wheat in South Australia in 1865-6 reaped by machine was 356,912, while the number reaped by hand was only 52,949.

^{*} Morton's "Resources of Estates," pp. 599-601. † It does not seem to be generally understood that Peruvian or ammoniacal guano is suitable for green crops, phosphatic guano and bone dust for grain and root crops. The one cannot be interchanged with the other, though both may be used together with advantage.

[§] It will be remembered that last harvest, in several districts in the Australian Colonies, it was stated in the public journals that a portion of the crops had to be left to rot on the ground in consequence of the impossibility of getting hands to gather it in.

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the best and cheapest motive power for which is steam. It is found in England that steam cultivation can be profitably carried on even where the extent of land does not exceed 200 acres.

horse power.

Advantage As to the relative advantages of steam and horse power, the following extracts from of steam over the writings of a practical English agriculturist, Mr. Alderman Mechi, will be sufficient for my present purpose :- "Horse-power is at least from 50 to 100 per cent. dearer than " steam, where the latter can be brought to bear. If manufacturers were asked even to " make the comparison, they would ridicule the idea, and tell you that but for steam you " could be neither clothed, housed, nor fed. What a manufacturer wants and uses is "' 'power'—cheap, untiring power; and is this not exactly what the agricultural culti"vator requires?" "Take an Atlantic steamer that steams unceasingly night and "day, and suppose her power to be 1,000 steam horses: you would require 6,000 real horses to do the work! To imagine what space so many animals would require, " their food, water, attendants, bedding, harness, and shoeing, seems an impossible " absurdity; and yet, practically, when a farmer uses a horse where he might use " steam he is in an equally ludicrous and unprofitable embarrassment." Again: "There " were now two great questions before the agricultural world. First, the introduction " of steam to cultivation. He hoped that for all general purposes, as thrashing, grinding, " and so forth, most farmers used the steam engine. And his hearers might depend " upon it that they would never develop the full powers of agriculture until they brought steam to bear on cultivation. Their five inches of cultivation would be "exchanged for two feet or three feet: he said that very guardedly."* Speaking of steam cultivation in the Colonies, a correspondent of "The Australasian" of March 30th says:-" The cost of the machinery is borne in Britain by the farmers joining together "in the various districts, by companies which supply machines, or by the large owners of land starting them for the benefit of their tenantry. The first is, however, the " more usual method of introducing the steam plough. In a Scotch journal now before " me I find a meeting of a farmers' association for steam ploughing reported. * * It "would appear that their capital is 1,000l, * * In this Colony the farmers might " subscribe the money for the machinery in various districts; but as they are often very " poor, I think if the Government were to advance them a certain part of the price of "the machinery, to be paid back in a certain number of years, it would be an advantage to the country generally." Perhaps, if the question were entertained by the Government at all, it might be worth consideration whether prizes might not rather be offered for the successful establishment of steam cultivation, instead of the plan above suggested.

The late trial, imperfect as it was, of the steam plough and cultivator in Melbourne appears to have established the fact that, even with the present amount of experience in the working of the apparatus, about seven acres can be ploughed and nine cultivated per

diem at a cost of 8s. and 6s. per acre respectively.

In Europe it is found that steam cultivation involves the necessity of underground drainage, but it remains to be shown by actual experience whether, under the different climatic conditions of these Colonies, the same necessity exists here. Even if this should be the case, however, steam power offers an easy and economical means of performing the work. Probably, where the soil is light and tolerably dry, artificial drainage would not be required; but in heavy tenacious clays it may be assumed to be little less necessary here than in Europe. There drainage, irrigation, and other similar works are often executed by the agency of agricultural improvement companies, and more effectually than by individuals; and the same course might be followed in these Colonies.

If a number of the landholders within a convenient distance would agree to guarantee, for a limited term, a sufficient amount of work, there is every reason to believe that English manufacturing firms would readily undertake to provide and send out the necessary appliances and skilled persons to work them, although it is possible that a further guarantee of a certain rate of interest upon the capital so employed might be required. This, however, ought not to occasion any difficulty, considering the immense superiority

of steam cultivation to the common mode.

But there are other subsidiary means of promoting the advancement of agriculture

that might be brought into operation with advantage.

Some improvement might be effected in the quality of the labour by ameliorating the moral and intellectual condition of farm servants. This must be done chiefly by the employers of labour. By providing decent and comfortable dwellings for their dependents, by encouraging habits of sobriety and thrift among them, and furnishing

Other means of improving agriculture. (a.) By improving condition of farm ser-

^{* &}quot;How to Farm Profitably," pp. 228, 290, 167. † "The Australasian," May 25.

them with the means of instruction and innocent recreation, the masters would probably find their own interests advanced. By these means the country labourers would become more attached to the soil, make better workmen, and would be taught to respect themselves. The establishment of working men's clubs in country districts, where practicable, would be a great assistance towards this end. It would, perhaps, be well for the landed proprietors to offer prizes to be competed for by their employés for neatness and cleanliness in their homes.

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Besides the prizes now given by agricultural societies or associations, others might, I (b.) Prizes by think, with advantage be offered for (1) the largest quantity of manure produced in one agricultural year; (2) for the greatest extent of ground under root crops; and (3) for irrigation, and societies. perhaps drainage.

An ingenious and successful agriculturist complained to me some time since of the (e.) Farmers' disadvantage under which farmers here are labouring for the want of some means of societies. communicating to each other the result of their experience and observation. Associations or societies might well be formed for this object, at which papers might be read and addresses delivered, and the common stock of knowledge be thus greatly increased.

The conclusion of the whole matter is this, -that under present circumstances agri- General conculture, to be successful, must be pursued with all the resources of skill and science* as clusion. well as capital (at least to a moderate extent), and that unless these be brought to bear upon it, it is in vain to hope that this Colony can ever compete with other countries where a better system is adopted. As new conditions come into existence new means must be employed to meet them.

I have abstained from making any comparison between the crops produced in the Returns of different years, as the returns up to this time have been mere estimates, taken before the produce. produce was gathered in, and are therefore utterly unsafe for statistical purposes. The yield for the last year (1866) will, I am informed, be found to be very much greater than the estimate; and no doubt the same (or the reverse) has often been the case in former years.

The following comparative table shows the number of live stock as stated in the Live stock. official returns for the last ten years :-

Years.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Mules.	Asses.	Pigs.
1857	19,857	80,144	1,635,920*	2,633	10%	No Or	34,237
1858	21,563	79,460	1,504,393	2,330	7	9	30,673
1859	20,559	79,950	1,697,199	2,819	3	9	32,008
1860	21,034	83,366	1,700,930	2,888	6	9	31,290
1861	22,128	87,114	1,714,498	3,330		7	39,677
1862	20,742	83,143	1,661,225	2,356	6	4	38,491
1863	21,964	90,446	1,800,811	2,276	7	5	41,986
1864	22,090	89,801	1,736,540	2,393	7	6	50,380
1865	22,152	90,020	1,752,719	2,410	8	4	36,624
1866	21,567	88,370	1,722,804	2,486	11	5	33,259

* There is an error in the statistics of this year in regard to the number of sheep in the George Town District. I have adopted the correction made by Mr. Calder in Legislative Council Paper No. 28, 1864, pp. 8 and 15.

The number of horses it appears was, in 1866, nearly the same as it was in 1857, and only four more than in 1858. The average annual number of horned cattle in the first five years was 82,007, and in the latter 88,356; being an increase of 6,349 per annum, or 7:74 per cent. The same process shows that the sheep have, during the last five years, increased on an average at the rate of 83,232 per annum, or 5.04 per cent. on the average number in the preceding quinquenniad. The number of goats seems to have decreased. Pigs have increased (pursuing the same method of comparison) at the rate of 6,571 per annum, or at the rate of 19.57 per cent.; the average number in the two periods being 33,577 and 40,148 respectively.

These results, which are, I believe, contrary to the common impression that our live stock has been decreasing, will show how fallacious it is to compare the numbers in any

"Pater ipse colendi Haud facilem esse viam voluit; primusque per artem Movit agros, curis acuens mortalia corda, Nec torpere gravi passus sua regna veterno."

Virgil, Georg. 1., 121-4.

^{*} This was accepted as a truth in very early times,-

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two single years together. In order to deduce the general law of increase or decrease, it is necessary to extend the comparison over a series of years. As regards sheep, the increase has doubtless been kept down by the ravages of fluke, especially in the lake country and in many other wet, undrained localities; and as regards cattle, one reason why they have not more rapidly multiplied may probably be gathered from the large increase in the exports of butter and cheese, it being a frequent practice with dairy farmers to kill the calves as soon as they are born in order to save the milk which would be required for rearing them.

VI.—Law, Crime, &c.

Trials before Supreme Court.

The number of persons tried before the Supreme Court in 1866 was 165 (being 10 less than in the preceding year), of whom 127 were convicted, and 38 acquitted. number tried before the Recorder's Court, Launceston, was 35 (being six more than in the preceding year), of whom 28 were convicted, and seven acquitted.

The criminal business of the Superior Courts of the Colony for the last 10 years is exhibited below.

		Sup	oreme Court		Courts of	Quarter Sess	ions.	Recorder's	eston.	m + 10-	
Year	s.	Felonies.	Misde- meanors.	Totals.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Totals.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Totals.	Total Con- victions.
1857		61	21	82	22	58	80				162
1858	_	113	37	150*	6	22	28	-			178
1859	_	121	29	150				12	22	34	184
1860	-	97	43	140				9	19	28	168
1861	_	77	20	97		-	_	11	19	30	127
1862	_	81	24	105	V - F			7	30	37	142
1863	-	75	16	91	_			7	24	31	122
1864	-	102	17	119		-/8		18†	5	23	142
1865	-	113	20	133				3	18	21	154
1866	-	109	18	127		/		4.7	_	28‡	155

* In this year the jurisdiction of the Court of Quarter Sessions was transferred to the Supreme Court.
† This appears in the statistics for the year as 8 only; is is corrected from the addition.
‡ The total only can be given, a different classification having been adopted for this year.

The total number of persons convicted has diminished considerably. For the purpose of more ready comparison it will be convenient to give the proportions in a tabular

Yea	rs.	Proportion to Total Population.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.	Years.		Proportion to Total Population.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.
1857 -		1 in 516	1.937	1862 -	-	1 in 639	1.565
1858 -		1 in 474	2.108	1863 -	-	1 in 750	1.333
1859 -		1 in 470	2.128	1864 -	-	1 in 657	1.522
1860 -		1 in 524	1.908	1865 -	-	1 in 618	1.617
1861 -		1 in 710	1.408	1866 -	-	1 in 682	1.592

In 1857 one in every 516 persons was convicted before the Superior Courts, and in 1859 one in 470; while in 1863 only one in 750, and in 1866 one in 682, was so convicted. This result shows that serious offences at least are decreasing. Of minor offences dealt with by the magistrates, there are no records in the statistics of former years, and I am afraid it will still be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain complete and

The number of persons committed for trial in 1866 was 238, being one in 409, or 2:444 per 1,000 of the total population. In South Australia in 1865 I find that the ratio of commitments to population was one in 567, and in the previous year one in 767 (the mean of seven years being one in 595); or, in 1866, 1.705 per 1,000, in 1865, 1.308, the mean being 1.729. The comparison, therefore (considering that South Australia has never been a penal settlement), is not unfavourable to this Colony.

During the last year there was not a single criminal executed. This is the first time, probably, in the history of this Colony that such has been the case, and the fact is, therefore, worthy of special mention. I may also observe that for the last 13 years at least the whole of the criminals executed were either convicts or persons who had been convicts; not one "free" person being among the number.

Executions.

The executions for the last 10 years were as under:-

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Years.			Persons executed.		Years.		
1857	-	-	9	1862		7 -	3
1858	-	-	5	1863	-	-	2
1859	-	-	12	1864	_	- 1	. 1
1860	-	-	6	1865	-	-	2
1861	-	-	4	1866		-	

The civil business of the Courts for the past decade is exhibited in the following Litigation. synopsis. It will be seen to have very considerably diminished.

		Civil Cases		Courts	of Requests.	
Year.		tried in the Supreme Court.	Summonses issued.	Actions tried.	Fieri Facias.	Capias ad satisfaciendum
1857 -	12.	52	1,277	963	381	83
1858 -		34	1,652	1,182	519	152
1859 -	-	42	1,304	902	549	10
1860 -	-	28	1,854	1,031	567	19
1861 -	-	28	818	484	254	5
1862 -	-	25	1,277	703	380	9
1863 -		23	443*	205*	129*	4
1864 -	-	24	924	- †	329	7
1865 -	-	23	1,228	395	363	3
1866 -		26	997	451	321	6

^{*} These numbers are so much below the others that some error may be suspected. \dagger Not given for this year.

The following is an abstract of the returns relating to insolvencies during the same Insolvencies. period. It will be seen that during the last five years the number has greatly decreased, proving what I have before inferred,—that if our trade is more contracted now than formerly, it stands at least on a sounder basis.

			Persons	by their Creditor		Perso	ns who have declared insolvent.	themselves
	Year.		Number of Fersons.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabi- lities.	Number of Persons.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabi- lities.
				£	£		£	£
1857	-	-	2	16,325	14,705	148	39,637	83,256
1858	-	-	8	50‡	1,500±	146	44,163	130,195
1859	-	-	10		_	131	91,619	130,446
1860	-	-	12	27,705	30,348	160	38,705	168,141
1861	-	-	9	1,812	1,508	146	82,598	172,424
1862	-		10	33,020	37,965	96	42,023	125,622
1863	-		4			61	17,639	40,377
1864	-	-	5	12,007	10,463	58	57,212	98,395
1865			6	9,668	17,969	81	33,039	73,530
1866		Cia	5	468	1,304	59	23,828	43,689

[‡] No Schedules filed at Launceston.

It may be interesting to mention that in 1857 the average amount of each insolvent's liabilities was 6,531*l*.; in 1866, only 380*l*.§

[§] CORRIGENDUM.—In this Report, after Table of Insolvencies, for "in 1857 the average amount of each insolvent's liabilities was 6,531l.; in 1866, only 380l."—read "in 1857 the average amount, &c. was 653l.; in 1866 it was 703l."

The average liabilities for each of the ten years was as follows:—

	Year.		Average for each Insolvent.		Year.		Average for each Insolvent.
			£				£
1857	-	-	653	1862	_	_	1,543
1858	-	-	855	1863		-	621
1859	•	-	925	1864	_	_	1,728
1860	-	-	1,154	1865	-	_	1,052
1861	-	-	1,130	1866		-	703

The inference drawn in the text is therefore not sustained.

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Tassania.
Transactions under Real Property Act.

As regards the transactions of the Lands' Titles Office, the only matter which seems to require special notice is the increase in the number of mortgages discharged during the year,—namely, eight (more than 50 per cent. over those in 1865), representing 4,561 acres, valued at 7,324l. Considering that nearly the whole of this was in the "Country," as distinguished from the "Towns and Suburbs," I presume this fact may be taken as indicative of an improved monetary condition of the landed proprietors. The amount of the Assurance Fund at the end of the year 1866 was 1,156l.

Mortgages.

The whole number and amount of the mortgages on land registered for the 10 years past are as follow:—

	Years.	Years.		Amount.	Years.		Number.	Amount.
				£				£
	1857 -	-	276	190,009	1862 -	-	343	157,596
	1858 -	-	348	231,153	1863 -	-	234	218,214
	1859 -	-	396	279,854†	1864 -	-	265	199,383
5. Line	1860 -	-	380	236,418	1865 -	-	274	165,577
	1861 -	-	392	358,676	1866 -		316	156,008

[†] There is an error in the statistical return for this year, which has been corrected by reference to the Registrar of Deeds.

The amount for 1866 is equal to a liability of 1*l*. 12s. $0\frac{1}{2}d$. per head for the whole population. In South Australia, in 1865, the rate per head of population was 4*l*. 9s. $7\frac{1}{4}d$.; in Victoria, in the same year, 2*l*. 2s. 7d.; and in New South Wales, 1*l*. 10s. $9\frac{3}{4}d$.

VII.—Education.

The returns usually furnished by the Board of Education were not received in time to appear in their proper place, and will, therefore, be subjoined as an Appendix; but with a view to preserve uniformity of system as regards the present and future returns, I have retained the heading.

VII. - Vital Statistics.

Births, deaths, and marriages.

During the year 1866 the number of births registered was 2,805; the number of deaths, 1,327 (four of which occurred beyond the geographical limits of the island); and of marriages, 571.

The proportional numbers for the last 10 years, according to the statistical returns, are given below:—

	Year.			rtion per 1,000 iving Populati	
			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1857	_		38.82	16.96	10.73
1858	-	-	37 · 17	18.50	9.23
1859	7	-	37.52	16.31	8.16
1860	-	-	36.77	19.86	7.82
1861		-	35.55	16.37	7.95
1862		-	34.70	15.01	7.01
1863			32.76	15.49	7.62
1864		-	32.48	15.36	7.48
1865	10821		32.23	13.26	6.20
1866		-	28.81	13.63	5.86
Mean i	for the T	'en }	34.68	16.07	7.80

The Act of Council, 2 Vict. No. 8. sect. 22, provides that the deaths of prisoners of the Crown who are still under sentence shall not be registered. This is a very inconvenient provision, and I would submit that it should be repealed, as being at variance with the practice in other countries, and opposed to the interests of science

In order to arrive at the true death rate the above table must be corrected as TASMANIA. follows:-

Y	ear.		Deaths of Prisoners of the Crown.	Executions.	Total.	Correction to be added to former Death Rate.	True Death Rate per 1,000
1857			30	9	39	•466	17.43
1858	-	-	14	5	19	•225	18.73
1859	-		12	12	24	.277	16.59
1860	100	**	7	6	13	•147	20.01
1861			8	4	12	•133	16.50
1862			2	3	5	.055	15.07
1863	-	-	3	2	5	.054	15.55
1864	-	-	2	1	3	.032	15.39
1865	-	-	1	2	3	.031	13.30
1866	-	-	9		9	•092	13.72
			Mean fo	or the Ten Ye	ears -	·151	16.23

The birth rate, it will be seen from the first table, has in the ten years declined from Births. 38.82 in 28.81; * that is, in 1857 the births were one in every 26 of the population; in 1866 they were only one in 35. Even as compared with the previous year there was a decrease at the rate of 3.42 per 1,000; and as compared with the mean rate for the ten years, a decrease of 5.87. The births in England in 1863 were at the rate of 35.39† per 1,000. In Victoria, in 1865, they were at the rate of 42.04 per 1,000; in New South Wales, 42.01; and in South Australia, 42.60. It must be confessed, therefore, that the rate of increase to the population from births is less in this than in any of the other Colonies named. This will sufficiently account for the very small increase in the number of inhabitants, in comparison with that of other countries similarly circumstanced, which has been noticed under the head of "Population." The mean birth rate during the first five years of the above period was 37.17, and in the latter only 32.20, which is a decrease of 4.97, or 13.37 per cent. The excess in the birth over the death rate in the first quinquenniad was 19.32 per 1,000, in the latter only 17.59. The births, therefore, are diminishing more rapidly than the deaths; so that unless this effect be interrupted by external causes, the natural increase to the population will gradually become less and less. The removal of an undue proportion of phosphates from the soil by exhaustive cropping has probably had some share in bringing about this result, since, according to physiologists, a deficiency of phosphoric acid in the soil is followed by a diminution of vigour in the human frame.

The proportion of male to female children born in 1866 was 1,432 to 1,373, or as

104.12 to 100. In all England (1861) it was as 104.6 to 100.

Of the 1,327 deaths registered in 1866, 791 were males, and 536 females,—the former Deaths. exceeding the latter by 47.5 per cent.; so that the excess of deaths of males was about ten times the excess of births.

The deaths of children under one year of age were one in five of the whole number, or 19.89 per cent. In Victoria, in 1865, the proportion was nearly one in three, or 33.82 per cent.‡ In Queensland the proportion was one in three, or 33.47 per cent., in the same year. In England, in 1861,§ the ratio was one in four, or 25.03 per cent.

The true death rate for all ages in Tasmania in 1866 was 13.72 per 1,000 living, and for the ten years 16.23. The mean in Victoria, in 1856-65, was 17.84; and in England, in 1852-61, 22.21. The mean for the very healthiest county of England (Rutlandshire), for the ten years 1852-61, was 18·12. From 17·85, the mean of the first quinquenniad, the death rate had decreased to 14·61, the mean of the second quinquenniad, or 18·15 per cent. In the course of the remarks that I have made it has frequently been my duty to draw comparisons unfavourable to this Colony, and it gives me, therefore, the greater satisfaction to be able to record the fact that as regards the healthiness of its climate (in spite of want of sewerage in the towns) Tasmania is greatly superior to any of the other countries to which I have referred. In this respect she is, perhaps, unrivalled.

§ Registrar-General's Report of 1863, the latest to which I have access.

^{*} Throughout these and all other similar calculations the population is taken as it stood at the end of the

year.

† "Progress of Victoria," p. 23.

† The deaths of children under one year are not distinguished in the statistics of New South Wales and South Australia.

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The quarterly returns of deaths enables us to institute the following comparison as regards Tasmania (1858-66) and Victoria (10 years):*-

Quarters.	Proportion per 100 of Total Number of Deaths.				
	Tasmania.	Victoria.			
First (January to March)	27.53	32.05			
Second (April to June) -	24.58	25.31			
Third (July to September) -	26.01	20.74			
Fourth (October to December) -	21.81	21.90			
	100.00	100.00			

In Tasmania, as it thus appears, the healthiest quarter is the last, from October to December; the least healthy is the first, from January to March. In Victoria the least healthy is also the first; but the smallest proportion of deaths is there to be found in the

Marriages.

third quarter, and not, as in our climate, in the fourth.

The number of marriages registered in 1866 was 571, being 20 less than in the previous year; only two of these took place before deputy registrars. On referring to the foregoing table for the last ten years it will be seen that the marriage rate has been gradually decreasing from 10.73 per 1,000 of the population in 1857 to only 5.86 in 1866, or 54.62 per cent. The mean rate for the ten years was 7.8 per 1,000. In Victoria the marriage ratio has also declined, during the ten years 1856-65, from 10.71 to 7.29, the mean being 8.79. In New South Wales the rate has also decreased, in 1857-64,

from 10.0 to 9.02, the mean being 9.33.

Returns of diseases and deaths.

Among the statistical records appears this year, for the first time, a return of diseases and deaths in the different hospitals and the Queen's Asylum,† classified according to the system of Dr. Farr, which is now adopted by the Registrar-General of England, and by all the Australian Colonies. The compilation of this return has cost me much thought and labour, but I have received valuable assistance in my attempt to introduce the system here from the Nosological Index prepared by the Registrar-General of Victoria, several copies of which he was kind enough to forward to me; and I have supplied one to each of the institutions included in the return. It is very desirable that the deaths for the whole Colony should be classified according to the same system, which might easily be done by supplying to each of the deputy registrars a copy of the index referred to, with proper directions as to the use of it. I should be happy to lend any assistance that might be required in promoting the adoption of this system, which is most valuable for purposes of comparison with the vital statistics of other countries. There is another and more important purpose to be served by such a classification and record of diseases. "One great object of statistical returns is to furnish such an identification of the diseases prevalent in any locality as may lead to a determination of the causes and may give an immediate clue to the measures which are necessary for prevention. In all cases, especially in the army and navy, this is one great use of statistical returns."

Death rate in hospitals.

The whole number of cases treated in the institutions referred to in this return was 2,214, and the number of deaths 205, or 9.26 per cent. of the cases treated. If we exclude the Queen's Asylum, the mortality in the hospitals alone would be 12.53 per cent. In Victoria, in 1865, the hospital death rate was 10.32 per cent. In the Adelaide Hospital it was 9.6 per cent., the mean of ten years (1856-65) being 8.75.

In the Hospital for the Insane the number of deaths was 13, the average number of patients for the year being 251, which gives a proportion of 5.18 per cent. In 57 lunatic asylums in England, in 1851, the rate of mortality was 11.07 per cent., calculated not upon the average but upon the number of patients in the different asylums on the 8th

April, the day of the census.

Influence of density of population.

It should be observed that in comparing the death rate in different localities or institutions it is necessary to make allowance for the different degrees of density of

† Dr. Parkes, F.R.S., in Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London, 1864-5; Appendix, p. 27.

^{* &}quot;Progress of Victoria," p. 24. These particulars, as regards the other Australian Colonies, are not readily obtainable.

[†] The hospital for insane has not been included, since all the patients are suffering from one primary disease (mania), and there is, therefore, no common ground of comparison, except with institutions of a similar kind.

the population or inmates, since it has been found to be a well-established law that the mortality increases pari passu with the density. The mortality in the hospitals here should, therefore, be less than in Melbourne; the anomaly must be left to be explained by those who are in a position to compare the arrangements in the respective

TASMANTA.

It is a fact worthy of special record that during the past year-for the first time, I Queen's believe, in the history of the institution—there was not a single death among the children Asylum. in the Queen's Asylum. When it is considered that the daily average number throughout the year was 511, the circumstance cannot fail to be regarded as a very remarkable

IX.—Miscellaneous.

Under this head two returns have been added which will probably be read with some interest: 1. Of the number of electors for both Houses of Parliament, showing the changes in the rolls during the year; and, 2. Of the number of persons employed in gold mining at Fingal, and the quantity of gold obtained. The latter is not so perfect as could be wished, but it is hoped that in another year it may be rendered more complete.

Conclusion.

I have thought it necessary in the foregoing observations to take a careful and detailed review of the commercial, financial, and agricultural condition of this Colony in the last decennial period, in order to lay a sure foundation for future comparison. Several ways in which our resources seem capable of development have been pointed out, and some manufactures have been suggested. But as all, or nearly all, manufactures require a considerable preliminary outlay, and involve a certain amount of risk, it is not always suitable to the circumstances of a young and thinly-peopled Colony to undertake them. It is, therefore, to agriculture that we must chiefly look as a means of rescuing this Colony from the state of depression into which it has so long and so continuously been drifting. A system of agriculture, to fulfil the conditions necessary to success in the present time, must involve (1) the employment of labour-saving appliances in every case in which their use is possible, to which end some capital will be requisite; (2) the copious application of fertilizers, natural and artificial, and the proper adaptation, on the principles laid down by Liebig and others, of plant, soil, and manure to one another; (3) such a rotation of crops as may be found most suitable to the climate and circumstances; and (4) a proper system of fallowing wherever it may be called for. Pursued in this manner, and with the advantages of this climate, which is very rarely, if ever, subject to the summer droughts and the winter floods of the neighbouring Colonies, agriculture might make this a second Sicily—the granary of the Australian group. A large increase of agricultural produce would necessitate and justify the construction of a system of railroads, which again, by a reflex action, would tend to promote such an increase, and excite generally a spirit of activity and enterprize. The stocking of our rivers with salmon and trout, which in a few years will have been accomplished, will open up parts of the Colony where now not a human habitation is to be found, and will carry civilization and industry into the desert; so that the only element really wanting in order to bring back prosperity is the ability to create it.

Before concluding I desire to express my acknowledgments to Dr. Hall for his obliging courtesy in responding to several communications which I made to him on the subject of improving our vital statistics; to Mr. Stops for some returns of fees supplied by him, which it did not come within the strict requirements of his duty to furnish; and to Mr. Solly for some suggestions as to the form of the returns relating to several of the penal and charitable institutions. The aid afforded by Mr. Hull in reading with me a part of the proof sheets has been already mentioned. I also desire to acknowledge the zealous co-operation of Mr. Barnard in all matters relating to the printing of

The following words, from the preface to the essay entitled "The Progress of Victoria," by the Registrar-General, which has been printed in the report of the Exhibition

It remains to be seen whether the mortality in small hospitals is not twice as great as the mortality of

^{* &}quot;The mortality of the sick who are treated in the large general hospitals of large towns is twice as great as the mortality of the sick who are treated in small hospitals in small towns.

the same diseases in patients who are treated in clean cottages.

"Should this turn out to be the case, the means of realising the advantages of the hospital system, without its disadvantages, will then be sought and probably found, as the problem is not insoluble."—Dr. Farr to the Registrar-General of England, 1863.

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just closed, are so apposite to the present occasion that I cannot do better than reproduce them here:—"All who have ever attempted to work up statistical data will readily appreciate the great amount of methodized skilled labour necessary to the accurate combination of facts as herein presented. In dealing with the vast mass of figures whence those now furnished were drawn it is hardly possible to escape some inaccuracy. But it is hoped there exists no error of importance. Should any mistake whatever be discovered, I shall be most thankful to have it pointed out, however trifling that mistake may be. 'Trifles,' said the old master, 'make perfection, and ' perfection is no trifle.'"

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. C. NOWELL,
Statistician.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

South Australia.

No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir D. Daly, to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 46.)

Government House, Adelaide,

My LORD DUKE,

August 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for this Province for the

The general statistics of the Colony, which, with the report of the Government statist for that year, are annexed to this volume, exhibit the progress in so much detail

as to render any observation on my part unnecessary.

2. The prolonged drought which occasioned so much loss and suffering to this Colony, especially to the pastoral interest, has been succeeded by an abundant harvest, and the pastoral runs are recovering in some degree from the serious losses in the stock of sheep and cattle which they had sustained.

3. The present season is also favourable, and gives reasonable ground for the expecta-

tion that the harvest of the present year will not be inferior to that of the last.

4. The effects of the late monetary crisis are disappearing somewhat tardily, and have deranged the operations of the money market to such an extent as to have induced my Government to discontinue immigration for several months past, with the intention, however, of resuming it again when the circumstances of the Colony justify it.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. DALY.
Governor.

Report to the Hon. Henry Ayres, M.L.C., Chief Secretary.

In presenting the "Statistical Register of South Australia for the year 1866," I have the honour to submit the following résumé of the principal facts disclosed in the accompanying voluminous tables, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, being in continuation of the annual reports heretofore published illustrative of the progress of the Province, and bringing under review, in a condensed form, and with brief explanatory remarks, such statistical information as chiefly bears upon the social state and material condition of the community.

Population.

The usual quinquennial census was taken on the 26th March of the past year, and exhibited a larger number of persons resident in the Province than was shown in the estimated population returns compiled from the statements of births and deaths, and of immigration and emigration by sea. It is only by a census that the effects of migration across the border can be ascertained, and in this instance the balance of arrivals over departures by land was in favour of South Australia.

The results of the census, however, form the subject of a separate volume now in the press, and shortly to be issued in a complete form; but from tables published within a

few weeks of the enumeration it appeared that the total population on the night of the 25th March 1866 was 163,452 persons, of whom 85,334 were males and 78,118 females. Australia. From that date to the close of the year the increase of population by the excess of immigration over emigration (by sea) was 2,335 persons, and the addition by excess of births over deaths during the same period was 3,366 souls, making a total population on 31st December last of 169,153 persons—88,272 males and 80,881 females. The total increase since the date of the census, a period of nine months, was therefore 5,701 persons-2,938 males and 2,763 females.

In forming a comparison with the preceding year, the addition to the population during the whole twelve months must be taken, and which amounted to 6,849 persons, 3,434 males and 3,415 females, the natural increase having been 4,029 persons, 1,933 males and 2,096 females; and the balance of arrivals over departures by sea, 2,820 persons, 1,501 males and 1,319 females. The increase in population from all sources during 1866 was therefore less by 2,415 persons than in 1865, when the rate of increase was six and a quarter per cent., whilst the rate during the past year was slightly under four and a half per cent. In 1864 the increase amounted to five per cent., and in 1863 to three and three quarters. The augmentation was therefore below the average of the three preceding years, namely, five per cent.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The natural increase of the population during the year 1866 amounted to 4,029 souls, or 469 less than in 1865, attributable to a greater mortality, as the number of births exceeded those of the previous year by 110.

6,782 children were born in 1866 (as compared with 6,672 the year before), 3,470 being boys, and 3,312 girls. The birth rate was therefore 41 per thousand of the popu-

lation, as compared with 45 in 1865 and 44 per thousand in 1864.

Many more deaths were recorded in 1866 than in the preceding year, namely, 2,753 as against 2,174, or an increase of 579. The rate of mortality in the year 1866 was 17.5 per 1,000 persons, in comparison with 14.8 in the preceding twelve months, but was only 1.1 higher than the rate shown in 1863. The average death rate in this Colony

may be taken to be 16.5 per 1,000 persons living at the commencement of the year.

With regard to the sexes, 1,537 males died, as compared with 1,220 in the previous year, and 1,216 females as against 954, showing an increase of 317 of the former sex, and

of 262 of the latter.

Out of 2,753 deaths, more than one-half, or 1,548, were deaths of children under five

years of age, being nearly the same proportion as last year.

The mortality among infants was also great, being 50 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 48 per cent. in 1865; the actual number of deaths of infants under two years of age being 1,385 and 1,041 respectively. During the preceding five years the deaths in this class ranged from 1,024 to 1,041 annually, with the exception of the year 1864 (scarlatina being then prevalent), when the number reached 1,214, or 171 fewer than last year.

The usual nosological table, showing the causes of death during each of the past 11 years, presents important particulars as to the prevalence of epidemics, and in connexion

with the monthly returns, will hereafter be esteemed of the highest value.

There was a diminution of 137 in the number of marriages, 1,299 only being solemnized as compared with 1,436 in 1865; with that exception, however, they were more numerous than in any previous year.

Immigration and Emigration.

The total addition to the population from the excess of immigration over emigration by sea amounted to 2,820 persons, of whom 1,501 were males and 1,319 were females. From this source in 1865 our number was augmented by 4,766 persons, 2,649 males and 2,117 females, being a greater number than had been recorded during either of the preceding ten years-14 immigrant vessels having arrived, landing 4,625 souls. The decrease in 1866, as compared with the previous year, is therefore considerable, amounting to 1,946 persons, 1,148 males and 798 females. It is true only 10 immigrant ships arrived during the course of twelve months, bringing 3,891 persons, or 734 less than in 1865, but there was contemporaneously an increased emigration, amounting altogether to 4,135 persons, or 432 more than in the previous year.

During 1866 the number of immigrants at the public expense was 3,891, or 1,071 more than the net gain by immigration from all sources; in the preceding year the net gain by immigration exceeded the number of Government immigrants by 141 souls.

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Years.	Immigration.			Emigration.				of Immig r Emigrat		Number of Immigrants at the Public Expense.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1857	5,262	2,876	8,138	3,205	1,704	4,909	2,057	1,172	3,229	2,422	1,543	3,96
1858	4,826	3,029	7,855	2,499	1,110	3,609	2,327	1,919	4,246	1,894	1,659	3,553
1859	2,910	1,959	4,869	2,271	1,380	3,651	639	579	1,218	913	1,098	2,01
1860	3,109	1,265	4,374	3,444	1,458	4,902	335*	193*	528*	492	480	97
1861	2,181	946	3,127	1,243	834	2,077	938	112	1,050	18	3	2
1862	2,091	1,139	3,230	1,787	898	2,685	304	241	545	281	330	61
1863	2,685	1,549	4,234	2,022	870	2,892	663	679	1,342	811	688	1,49
1864	3,720	2,238	5,958	1,776	900	2,676	1,944	1,338	3,282	1,459	1,188	2,64
1865	5,318	3,151	8,469	2,669	1,034	3,703	2,649	2,117	4,766	2,692	1,933	4,62
1866	4,400	2,555	6,955	2,899	1,236	4,135	1,501	1,319	2,820	2,252	1,639	3,89
Total	36,502	20,707	57,209	23,815	11,424	35,239	12,087	9,283	21,970	13,234	10,561	23,79

* Excess of Emigration.

The aggregate arrivals during the ten years comprised in the above return numbered 57,209; and the departures from the Colony 35,239, showing a balance of arrivals over departures of 21,970 souls. During the same period, 23,795 Government immigrants were introduced, or 1,825 more than the net gain by immigration, and equal to eight

per cent. of the Government immigration.

This loss, however, chiefly resulted during the first five years of the decade. The balance of arrivals over departures during that period amounted to 9,215, the number of Government immigrants being 10,522, showing a deficiency of 1,307 persons, or $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. During the five years ending with 1866, however, the number of Government immigrants was greater by four per cent. only than the net gain from the excess of immigration of both classes over emigration. The arrivals exceeded the departures by 12,755, whilst the Government immigration amounted to 13,273 persons, showing a deficiency of 518 persons during the last five years.

Public Worship.

No less than 31 new places of worship are returned by the several religious denominations as opened during the year 1866, compared with six in the preceding year. The additional accommodation thus provided was 7,973 sittings. The aggregate number of churches and chapels is 492, with seats for 91,816 persons. In addition thereto, 153 rooms were temporarily used for religious services, capable of accommodating 6,361 persons; so that the total number of places of worship used during 1866 would be 645, with sittings for 98,177 persons, or equal to every man, woman, and child in the Colony of 14 years of age and upwards, supposing all to attend simultaneously. The number of private rooms or other temporary places of worship was 20 less than in 1866, owing to the abandonment of many preaching stations in the north and to the rapid substitution of more appropriate buildings. The following figures show the advancement made during the last three years:—

		1864.	1865.	1866.
Number of churches or chapels		455	461	492
" sittings in ditto -		79,595	83,843	91,816
" rooms used, &c	-	180	173	153
,, sittings in ditto -	-	7,621	6,507	6,361
Total number of places of worship	-	635	634	645
" sittings provided	-	87,216	90,350	98,177
Sunday schools	-	382	384	398
Sunday-school teachers -	-	3,254	3,484	3,807
Sunday scholars	- 1	23,087	23,739	25,914

It will be seen from the above table that the extension of Sunday schools is progressing favourably, the total number in connexion with the various religious denominations

now being 398, with 3,807 teachers, of whom 1,873 were males and 1,934 females, and the total number of scholars being 25,914, of whom 12,829 were boys and 13,085 girls; showing an increase over the preceding year of 14 schools, 323 teachers, and 2,175 scholars. The increase in the number of teachers and scholars was greater than had been recorded in any previous year.

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Education.

The return of the number of children attending schools licensed by the Board of Education shows an increase of thirteen schools, or five per cent., and of 1,010 scholars,

or 7.4 per cent., as compared with the year 1865.

The total number of schools open was 292, and the average number of scholars on the roll, boys 8,160, and girls 6,530, together 14,690; of whom 11,472 on the average were in attendance, or 78 per cent. of the number on the roll. The average number of scholars belonging to each school was 50 against 49, and the average attendance thereat 39 and 38 in the respective years, a slight improvement on former returns. The above figures relate to the position of the schools in the month of October, the period of the year when attendance is most regular; the number attending varies considerably each month, and the average for the year is less than the number above given.

The proportion of the sexes remains the same as before, namely, of boys 55.5 per cent., and of girls 44.5 per cent. of the total scholars. As respects the ages of scholars, little improvement is shown, the period of school life being much too limited to enable scholars to obtain more than a rudimentary education. Children of six years and under formed 28.5 per cent.; of seven to ten years, 51 per cent.; of eleven to twelve years, 13.5 per cent.; and of thirteen years of age and upwards, only 7 per cent. of the whole number.

The education grant is chiefly beneficial to the sparsely peopled districts. Out of 14,690 scholars 1,509 only were at licensed schools within the city, 1,316 in other

corporate towns, 11,865 being in the country districts.

There are now no less than 68 school-houses throughout the country held in trust for purposes of education; these have been erected by private subscription, supplemented

from funds voted by Parliament to the amount of 12,864l.

The financial statement shows 14,662l. to have been paid as stipends to teachers, or an average of 1l. 1s. $5\frac{1}{2}d$. for each scholar. The greatest number of destitute children in attendance was 1,191, for whose schooling the Government paid the sum of 18s. $6\frac{3}{4}d$. each.

The total amount of school fees received by the teachers from parents, &c. was 14,622l., giving an average of 19s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$. for each scholar. The total cost of each child's education during 1866 is stated to average 2l. 0s. 8d., and the expense of each licensed school to have averaged 61l. 1s. 11d. It is estimated that, including private schools, one in 7.7 of the population is receiving education.

The total expenditure by the State for educational purposes during the past decade has amounted to 170,137l.; the sum expended last year being 21,683l. sterling; these

amounts including the grants to the several mechanics' institutes.

Charitable Institutions.

During 1866 medical relief was afforded to 1,257 patients in the Adelaide Hospital, or to 111 more than in 1865. At the beginning of the year there were 137 patients in the building, 98 males and 39 females, which number was increased by the end of the year to 143, 97 males and 46 females. The total number admitted during the twelve months was 1,120, compared with 1,031 in 1865; and the daily average number in the hospital was 138, or 17 more than last year. Of these 95 were males and 43 females. Whilst the daily number of the former sex has increased during the past four years from 71 to 95, the average number of female patients has remained at 43. In a total number of 1,257 cases treated, 885 patients were discharged cured, 105 were relieved, and 124 died—93 males and 31 females. The average duration of stay of patients in the institution was in acute diseases from 17 to 19 days, and in chronic cases from 81 to 85 days. With regard to the various forms of suffering, reference must be made to the very full returns given in the detailed tables, which show the number of cases in each class of disease, whether male or female patients, the result of the treatment, and the number of inmates on the first and last days of the year, classified under each particular ailment.

The slight improvement in the returns from the Lunatic Asylum noticed last year has not been continuous, the records for 1866 showing a large increase in the number of admissions, a reduction in the number of patients discharged, and a consequent augmen-

tation of the number of inmates at the close of the year.

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On the 1st of January there were 108 male and 87 female inmates, together 195; on the 31st of December there were 224 inmates, 125 males and 99 females, or 17 more of the former sex and 12 of the latter than on the same day in the previous year. The daily average number of patients was 206, as compared with 195; 88 cases were admitted in lieu of 63; and 43 discharged, either cured or relieved, instead of 50; the number of deaths, 16, was the same in either year. During the twelve months 283 patients were under treatment, as compared with 262 the year before. Only 17 out of 224 inmates remaining in the asylum at the close of the year were in a position to repay a portion of the cost of their maintenance, all the other patients being supported entirely at the public expense.

The returns relating to destitution are of a very unsatisfactory character, exhibiting an

unusual number of claimants for relief at the hands of the State.

The statement of the average number of destitute poor supported or relieved by the Government, exclusive of patients in the hospital and lunatic asylum, is divided into two

classes, indoor and outdoor cases.

Only aged and infirm persons or sick and deserted children are, as a rule, admitted into the asylum, and numbered 233 as compared with 178 last year. The additional number of inmates was 55, consisting of 42 males, 22 being adults and 20 children; and of 13 females, of whom seven were adults and six children. The increase in the year preceding was 32—20 males and 12 females, so that the additional claimants for permanent support during the past year were confined to the male sex, and in relative number not greater

than has been before recorded.

Turning, however, to the statement of the number of recipients of outdoor relief throughout the Province, it is lamentable to find that more than twice the amount of eleemosynary aid was required than in the previous year, and that irrespective of distinction in age, nationality, or sex. The total average number of outdoor cases was 1,144, 566 males and 578 females, as against 526 cases in the previous year, 249 males and 277 females, showing an increase of 618 cases. It is specified that all the male adults were relieved in consequence of sickness; their average number was 104, or 55 more than last year. The average number of adult females was 135, or 84 more than last year. Many of these are women who have been deserted by their husbands, and, with their children,

requiring partial relief.

In commenting upon the rapid increase in the number of destitute children and orphans in my last report, when there appeared an addition of 156 over the previous year, or about one-third more, I adverted to the want of industrial schools or similar institutions in the more populous districts, where these children could receive the care and attention at present necessarily withheld. Now, however, that during the course of a single year the number has increased twofold; when, instead of 500, there are over 1,000 children on the average receiving support from the State, the increased attention now being devoted to this subject will be considered as well-timed. The returns this year show 1,007 destitute children, of whom 525 were boys and 482 girls; last year 512 children, of whom 253 were boys and 259 girls; all (except 102 at the Government Free School) distributed in various localities throughout the Province. 1,100% was expended by the Education Board in remunerating licensed teachers for the instruction of children whose parents were unable to pay the customary school fee.

During 1866 the amount expended by the State on charitable institutions, irrespective of cost of buildings, was 32,026l., or twice the sum paid three years ago. It was divided among the three institutions as follows:—Medical and hospital, 8,740l.; lunatic asylum, 9,526l; and destitute poor, 13,759l.; the latter department expending 50 per cent.

more than in the previous year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Following upon a year when the public revenue had increased 42 per cent., the returns for 1866 show a diminution of less moment than might have been anticipated, owing to the demand for land, which had been extraordinary in 1865, having continued through

the earlier months of the succeeding year.

The revenue from all sources amounted to 949,774l., as compared with 1,089,128l., or a decrease of 139,354l. The principal decrease was in the payments into the Treasury for land, which amounted to 331,285l. instead of 504,677l., or 173,392l. less. Other smaller decreases were compensated for by increases on remaining items. The amount of customs receipts, the only source of taxation, was 230,134l., or 27s. 2d. per head of the population, as against 30s. per head in the preceding year.

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Consequent upon the accumulation of revenue during the previous year the expenditure during 1866 was enhanced, amounting to 1,064,323l., as compared with 790,504l., Australia. or an increase of 273,819l. The principal addition was under the head of public works, upon which 402,245l. were expended, as against 223,083l., or an increase of 179,162l. In connexion with this expenditure must be taken the payments for interest and sinking fund of the bonded debt, 95,830l., and also 20,385l. from the loan account, making a total sum spent on account of public improvements during 1866 of 518,4611, half a million being provided out of the general revenue. The immigration expenditure was 65,1811. as against 53,688l.

The balance to the credit of the treasurer at the close of the year amounted to

403,091l. sterling, as compared with 417,640l. at its commencement.

From a return of the gross revenue and expenditure during the past ten years, it appears that during that period the receipts into the treasury, from all sources, have amounted to 6,429,339l., and the outgoings to 6,359,452l. Of the former sum the ordinary revenue contributed 3,719,793l., and the remaining 2,709,546l. was procured from the land fund. During the like period the total expenditure upon public improvements and immigration amounted to 3,063,938l., not including the cost attending the establishments connected with the survey and sale of the land, the prosecution of public works, and the supervision of immigration.

Loans for Public Works.

The amount of the public debt of the Province, which has been incurred solely for the construction of reproductive public works, partly in aid of sums devoted out of the general revenue, amounted on the 31st December last to 775,600l., or a reduction of 20,600% during the twelve months. The actual amount paid off during 1866 was, however, 44,600l., a fresh loan to the extent of 24,000l. having been contracted for the purposes of the Strathalbyn tramway; being the first incurred since 1863.

The public indebtedness amounts to 4l. 11s. 6d. per head of the population, or about

one-third of the rate existing in the neighbouring communities.

Since the first bond was issued in 1854 the sum of 1,092,900l. has been raised by loan, of which 317,300l. has been paid off, leaving the present debt, the bulk of which is extinguishable during the next twenty years, at the amount above stated.

Banking.

The usual half-yearly statements of the average liabilities and assets of the six banking institutions carrying on business in this Province have been duly published in accordance with the requirements of the Act relating thereto.

For purposes of comparison, however, the subjoined abstract of the aggregate average assets and liabilities of the several banks for the six months ending December 1864, 1865, and 1866 respectively, will be found convenient.

	The second second	A STATE OF THE STA	
	1864.	1865.	1866.
Notes in circulation Bills in circulation		26,415 4 7 1,568,151 1 1	239,372 8 2 42,246 19 4 32,210 9 1 1,401,565 9
	Assets.		
THE RESERVE TO BE A SECURED IN	1864.	1865.	1866.
Coin and bullion	411,710 3 4,600 0	1,000 0 0	318,927 5 4,600 0
Anded property and bank premises Notes and bills of other banks Balances due from other banks Notes and bills discounted, and other debts due to		1 69,257 16 11 4 13,325 11 8 1 73,600 3 5	86,404 9 26,611 8 63,426 7
banks not enumerated -	1,724,759 5	4 2,424,924 8 8	3,120,092 10 1
Total average Assets			

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

It will be seen from the above how far the commercial crisis of 1866, in combination with the disastrous effects of a lengthened drought, affected the monetary position of the colonists.

In the December half-year 1865 the average liabilities amounted to 1,947,2171, in 1866 to 1,715,395l. The average assets for the same periods being 3,031,705l. and

3,620,062*l*. respectively.

On analyzing the returns, it appears that the deposits were 166,585l. less, amounting to 1,401,565l. instead of 1,568,151l. This diminution is small in amount, but becomes important when compared with an increase in the previous year's returns of 409,220l. The note circulation also fell off to the extent of 100,000l., or from 340,512l. to 239,372l., returning to the amount at which it stood in the last half of 1863.

The chief feature in the returns, however, is the great increase in the amount of accommodation afforded to the public out of the bank's own capital. With reduced, instead of rapidly increasing deposits, and a deficiency of nearly one-third in the note circulation, the discounts and advances were augmented by 695,168l., or from 2,424,924l. to 3,120,0921. sterling. In the December half of 1865 the deposits amounted to 1,568,151l., and the advances to 2,424,924l., the latter exceeding the former by 856,773l. In the same period last year the average deposits were 1,401,565*l*., and the discounts 3,120,092*l*., or a difference of 1,718,527*l*., or just double that of the preceding year. The intensity of the monetary pressure may be estimated when so great and unusual a demand upon the assistance of the banks was promptly met to the liberal extent above disclosed. The rates of discount and of exchange were, of course, greatly affected. The usual statement showing the latter ruling for each quarter will be found interesting. During the third quarter of the year bank drafts on London at sixty days' sight reached three per cent. premium.

Savings Bank.

Although this institution was naturally affected by the financial difficulties existing during the year under review, it is satisfactory to find, from a close examination of the returns rendered, that the pressure upon the class of the community from which the depositors are principally drawn was less than might have been anticipated. The number of new accounts opened was 2,135, or only 198 fewer, and the amount deposited 124,427l., or but 6,688l. less than in 1865. The amount to the credit of the several depositors at the close of the year was 249,329l., or 9,364l. less than on the last day of the preceding year, the total number of accounts open being 7,679, or 603 more. The depositors drew from the bank 147,524l., as compared with 115,751l., or an increase of 31,773l., as against an increase shown in the previous year of 28,020l. on the same

The reserve fund increased from 15,378l. to 17,370l., and the rate of interest allowed to depositors from five to six per cent. per annum. The total funds of the bank amounted to 266,700l., as compared with 274,071l. The following abstract of the bank's operations during the past five years will be found useful:-

_			1862.	1863,	1864.	1865.	1866.
New accounts opened (number)		-	1,264	1,440	1,806	2,333	2,135
Increase in depositors (number)	*	-	629 £	834 £	1,132 £	1,233 £	603 £
Amount deposited		-	79,482	91,783	120,924	131,115	124,427
" withdrawn		-	54,495	63,393	87,731	115,751	147,524
" depositors' balances -		-	152,663	189,143	231,972	258,693	249,329
" reserve funds		-	10,842	12,062	13,431	15,378	17,370
" total funds	-		163,506	201,205	245,403	274,071	266,700

The rate of interest charged by the bank for loans on freehold security was increased during the last quarter of the year to eight per cent., having previously stood for several years at seven and a half per cent. per annum. The total amount lent on mortgage is 178,862l, and 11,600l. is invested in Government securities. In addition to the branches of this institution heretofore existing at Port Adelaide, Mount Gambia, and Kapunda, further facilities were afforded to depositors by the opening, early in the year, of agencies at the telegraph offices in the several townships of Clare, Gawler, Goolwa, Kooringa, Strathalbyn, and Wallaroo.

Imports and Exports.

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Trade languished during 1866 from a variety of causes, but if it be remembered that the following comparisons are made with one of the most prosperous years experienced, it will be found that the diminution recorded is, relatively, of less moment than would at first sight appear.

The combined import and export trade amounted to 5,693,879l., against 6,057,442l. in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 363,563l. or six per cent.; but the trade of 1866 was equal in amount to that of the year 1864, and nearly one-third greater than

that of 1863.

The total imports were valued at 2,835,142*l*. as compared with 2,927,596*l*., or a decrease of 92,454*l*. When compared with 1864 there is an increase shown of 422,211*l*., or nearly 20 per cent. The total exports amounted to 2,858,737*l*., or a falling off of 271,109*l*. or about eight per cent. When compared with 1864, in which year the export trade reached to 3,305,545*l*., there is a decrease of 446,808*l*., or 13 per cent.

Taking the three years together, the total imports amounted to 8,175,669*l.*, and the exports to 9,294,128*l.*, leaving a balance in favour of the Colony of 1,118,459*l.*, distributed throughout the period as follows:—In 1864, the exports exceeded the imports by 892,614*l.*, in 1865 by 202,250*l.*, and last year by 23,595*l.* only. In 1864 the exports of staple products were valued at 42 per cent. more than the goods cleared for home consumption; in 1865 at eight per cent. only; but in 1866 the shipments did not exceed the imports by as much as one per cent.

During the first 18 months of this period the exports exceeded the imports enormously, and unfortunately induced excessive importations during the latter half of

the period, when the exports falling considerably, depression naturally resulted.

The following table shows the combined import and export trade for each year since 1857, inclusive, the total imports, the imports retained for home consumption, and the imports re-exported; the aggregate exports, the value of staple products exported, and the difference between the latter and the value of imports consumed:—

	Year, Combined Import and Export Trade.		Import and Total Imports.		Imports re-exported.	Total Exports.	Exports of Produce of the Colony.	Balance Produce exported over Imports consumed.	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1857	-	-	3,581,624	1,623,052	1,408,664	214,388	1,958,572	1,744,184	335,520
1858	-	-	3,281,536	1,769,351	1,612,207	157,144	1,512,185	1,355,041	257,166
1859	-	-	3,163,370	1,507,494	1,353,783	153,711	1,655,876	1,502,165	148,382
1860	-	-	3,423,307	1,639,591	1,432,201	207,390	1,783,716	1,576,326	144,125
1861	-	-	4,008,329	1,976,018	1,782,346	193,672	2,032,311	1,838,639	56,293
1862	-	-	3,966,452	1,820,656	1,595,347	225,309	2,145,796	1,920,487	325,140
1863	-		4,387,096	2,028,279	1,764,818	263,461	2,358,817	2,095,356	330,538
1864		-	5,718,476	2,412,931	2,122,923	290,008	3,305,545	3,015,537	892,614
1865	-	-	6,057,442	2,927,596	2,552,407	375,189	3,129,846	2,754,657	202,250
1866	-	-	5,693,879	2,835,142	2,516,128	319,014	2,858,737	2,539,723	23,595

The combined import and export trade with the United Kingdom amounted to 3,036,138l., as compared with 2,706,584l., or an increase of 329,544l. The imports amounted to 1,880,273l., as against 1,741,690l., or 138,583l. additional. The shipments to Great Britain amounted to 1,155,865l., as compared with 964,894l., or an increase of 190,971l. In 1865 the imports thence exceeded our exports direct by 776,796l., last year by 724,407l. We purchased British goods (in addition to large supplies by way of Melbourne) to the extent of 11l. 2s. 6d. per head of the population, being the same

rate as in the preceding year.

With Victoria, however, there was a falling off amounting to half a million sterling—in 1865 the combined import and export trade having reached 1,864,945l., whilst in 1866 it only amounted to 1,337,987l. There appears to have been a considerable decrease in both import and export trade, the former amounting to 402,692l., or 217,609l. less, and the latter 935,295l., or 309,348l. below that of the previous year. The diminution in the import trade amounted to 33 per cent., and in exports to 25 per cent., attributable to the decreased shipments of cereal produce. The balance of trade was in favour of South Australia by 532,603l. as against 624,342l. the year before.

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Business transactions with New South Wales were likewise disturbed, and although no serious diminution in the aggregate amount is shown, the traffic was less favourable to this community. The total transactions amounted to 647,624l., or 149,881l. less this community. than in 1865; the import trade amounting to 295,071l. as compared with 239,820l., or an increase of 55,251l.; and the shipments thereto declining from 557,685l. to 352,5531., or by 36 per cent. The balance of trade in our favour was reduced from 317,864l. to 57,482l.

Our shipments to Queensland advanced from 93,031l. to 107,651l.; but to New Zealand, on the other hand, they diminished, being only 65,5861. instead of 143,9871., almost entirely wheat and flour. The exports to Western Australia increased from 28,490l. to 44,499l., the imports from thence amounting to 5,031l., showing a balance in our favour of 39,468l.; owing to the regular communication, business with this Colony is rapidly increasing. From Tasmania we imported 26,469l. worth of timber

and potatoes, as against 36,438l. the year before.

The exports to the Cape and the Mauritius were almost nominal, being 11,5711. only, but the importation of sugar from the latter place increased from 99,712l. to 116,973l. value. The shipments of copper to India were larger than in 1865, the total exports thereto—nearly the whole being mineral produce—amounted to 144,121*l*. as compared with 76,970*l*., or an increase of 67,151*l*.

With foreign countries direct trade was very limited. From the United States we received goods of the value of 37,790l. as against 47,462l.; and, for the first time, shipped wool to that country to the amount of 34,565l. From China we imported teas, &c. to the value of 26,576l. as against 54,059l. in the preceding year. To Batavia we exported flour to the value of 2,130l. The imports of Baltic timber declined from 34,525l. to 8,500l., whilst the importations from Hamburgh direct amounted to 10,594l. as compared with 2,455l. in the year preceding.

During 1865 the imports of coin and bullion amounted to 72,050l., and the exports to 60,410l., leaving a balance in favour of the Colony of 11,640l. Last year, however, we shipped 86,930l., only receiving 68,050l. in return, showing a balance against us

of 18,880l. sterling.

Exports, the Produce of the Colony.

In reviewing the progress of a community liable to periodical depression, but also, as the above table shows, equally open to times of great prosperity, it is especially important, in either of those events, carefully to analyze and compare returns extending over a number of years before forming an opinion as to its present position or its future prospects. With this view is supplied, as in each previous year, a statement future prospects. from which a fair conclusion may be drawn as to the development of the material interests of the Province. It shows the total value of the exports of colonial produce and of the three principal staple products in the years 1857, 1861, and 1866 respectively, the beginning, middle, and termination of the past decade; also the aggregate value of those experts during the quinquennial periods closing in 1861 and 1866; together with the average annual shipments in the same periods, and the proportion which the shipments of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral staples respectively bore to the total exports of produce :-

			Of which	h Exports.	
Period.	Total Exports of Produce.	Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.	Wool.	Copper and other Minerals.	Miscellaneous Products.
	£	£	£	£	£
In the year 1857	- 1,744,184	755,840	504,520	458,839	24,985
1961	. 1,838,639	712,789	623,007	452,172	50,671
,, 1866	- 2,539,723	645,401	990,173	824,501	79,648
Total in five years, 1857-61	- 8,016,355	3,047,394	2,606,705	2,141,848	220,408
, 1862–66	- 12,325,760	4,718,831	3,938,516	3,226,249	442,164
Average of five years, 1857-61	- 1,603,271	609,480	521,341	428,370	44,080
,, 1862–66	- 2,465,152	943,766	787,703	645,250	88,433
Rate per cent. of average exports	of				
1857-61	- 100.0	38.0	32.5	26.7	2.8
Rate per cent. of average exports 1862-66 -	of - 100·0	38.3	31.9	26.2	3.6

From the above it appears that the average exports of the five years ending in 1866 was greater by 50 per cent. than that of a similar period ending in 1861, being Australia. 2,465,152l. as compared with 1,603,271l.

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The aggregate exports of staple productions during the whole period of ten years amounted to over twenty millions sterling, eight millions being due to the first half of the

decade, and twelve and a quarter millions to the last.

The total exports of produce in the year 1857 amounted to 1,744,184l., in 1861 to 1,838,639l., and during last year to 2,539,723l. In 1857 the gross value was made up as follows:—Breadstuffs, 755,840l.; wool, 504,520l.; copper, 458,839l.; and miscellaneous, 24,985l. In 1866 the proportion of each staple product contributed was as follows:—Wool, 990,173l.; copper, 824,501l.; cereals, 645,401l.; and miscellaneous articles,

79,6481.

It will be seen that, so far as agricultural produce is concerned, a mere comparison of value gives an erroneous view, as our cereal exports in 1866 were somewhat larger in quantity than in 1857, although not much, owing to the deficiency in the harvest. This objection equally applies to mineral produce, and although it is necessary to give a comparative statement of the value of exports, the only correct estimate can be formed from the tables of quantities exported, which will be found in later paragraphs. By taking an average of five years, as given in the above table, the error is partly corrected, as such a comparison shows an augmentation in the value of each staple product of over 50 per cent.

The following statement shows as closely as possible the relative value of wheat, wool, and copper as compared with the total exports of produce :-

Five Yea	rs, ending	with	Ratio of Avera	Ratio of Average of Five Years' Exports of each Class to Total Exports = 100.								
			Breadstuffs.	Wool,	Minerals.	Miscellaneous						
			Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.						
1857		-	40.4	30.8	24.6	4.2						
1858		-	40.6	30.7	25.4	3.3						
1859	-	-	39.3	31.5	27.1	2.1						
1860		-	38.2	31.6	27.6	2.6						
1861		-	38.0	32.5	26.7	2.8						
1862	-	-	35.5	33.4	27.2	3.9						
1863		-	35.2	33.9	27.0	3.9						
1864		-	38.8	31.8	25.7	3.7						
1865	-		41.2	30.8	24.5	3.5						
1866	-		38.3	31.9	26.2	3.6						

Taking the average of the five years terminating with 1861, the value of breadstuffs formed 38.0, wool 32.5, copper 26.7, and miscellaneous articles 2.8 per cent. of the total exports. Taking the like average for the similar period ending in 1866, we find bread-stuffs contributed 38.3, wool 31.9, copper 26.2, and miscellaneous articles 3.6 per cent. of the gross produce. Although this comparison shows but little change in the relative position of the three classes, a closer examination of the table will disclose many fluctuations during the period over which it extends.

Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.

The great falling off in the exports of breadstuffs during 1866, as compared with the two preceding years, was the main cause of the depression existing during the last twelve months, for not only was the harvest much smaller than its predecessor, yielding 3,587,800 bushels only, as against 4,252,949 bushels, but the higher rates usually attendant upon scarcity were not realized. The early date at which the probable deficiency in the yield was established induced the dispatch of orders to the American continent for large supplies, which continued to pour into the neighbouring Colonies, displacing to a great extent the demand for our grain, and diminishing its market value. Farmers also suffered from holding back wheat early in the season, anticipating higher prices, but which, owing to the glut of American grain, they failed to obtain. Deficient crops and low prices, combined with the unfortunate mistake as to the probabilities of the market, made the year 1866, so far as regards the trade in breadstuffs, singularly disastrous.

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The total quantity of wheat and flour shipped was 38,808 tons as against 60,513 tons, Australia. or one-third less than in 1865. The value was diminished at the same time; the declared amount of the exports of breadstuffs, grain, &c., being only 645,401l. as compared with 1,228,480l., or nearly one-half. Notwithstanding the scarcity, the average price of flour throughout the year was only 15l. 7s. as against 20l. 10s. per ton, and of wheat only 6s. 2d. instead of 8s. 7d. per bushel as in 1865.

> The following figures, showing the progress of the wheat and flour trade during the past five years, will be found reassuring as to the future :-

Year.		Acres under Wheat.	Wheat Harvest.	Average yield per Acre.	Flour and Wheat shipped.	Average price, Wheat, per bushel.	Total Value Breadstuffs, Grain, &c. shipped.
			Bushels.	Bs. lbs.	Tons.	s. d.	£
1862 -	-	310,636	3,410,756	10 59	51,092	4 8	633,241
1863 -	-	320,160	3,841,824	12 0	60,434	4 10	747,116
1864 -	-	335,758	4,691,919	14 0	76,553	8 6	1,464,593
1865 -	-	390,836	4,252,949	11 0	60,513	8 7	1,228,480
1866 -	_	410,608	3,587,800	8 44	38,808	6 2	645,401

So sudden and serious a decline in the export of the chief staple of the country, although felt to be only temporary,* of course produced great depression amongst all classes; not less so from having followed a period of more than ordinary prosperity.

At the present juncture it is important to note the immense stride agriculture has taken during the latter half of the past decade; and that, during the last three years, including that under review, our yearly cereal exports have averaged more than one million sterling; and I consequently subjoin a tabular statement showing the shipments of flour, wheat, bran, and pollard during the years 1857, 1861, and 1866, also the total exports of those articles during the two quinquennial periods, and the average for such periods :-

Period.				Flour.	Wheat.	Total in Flour, at 45 bushels to ton.	Bran and Pollard.
				Tons.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
In the year 1857 -	-		-	33,103	200,328	37,555	6,553
,, 1861	- 0	-	-	33,011	674,160	47,992	4,826
" 1866		-	-	30,496	374,048	38,808	2,560
Total in five years, 1857-61		-	-	129,612	1,693,360	167,242	23,999
,, 1862–66	1-		-	185,890	4,568,128	287,404	29,699
Average of five years, 1857-61		-	-	25,922	338,672	33,448	4,799
,, 1862-66	-	-	-	37,178	913,626	57,481	5,935

It will be seen that during the five years ending in 1861 we exported 167,242 tons; in the succeeding quinquennial period we shipped 287,404 tons; and that the shipments during the first five years averaged 33,448 tons, and during the last 57,481 tons.

The large exportable surplus of 1865, 60,513 tons, was wholly disposed of in the adjoining Colonies and New Zealand, without difficulty; but, owing to the immense importations of American grain before referred to, attracted by the high prices that had ruled here during that and the previous year, the smaller disposable surplus of 1866 moved off very slowly, the shipments hence to the Sydney and Melbourne markets being greatly diminished.

Victoria took only 8,476 tons of flour and 22,883 quarters of wheat, as against 15,537 tons and 68,410 quarters in 1865. To New South Wales 12,047 tons of flour and 14,190 quarters of wheat were sent, instead of 14,322 tons and 35,040 quarters respectively. Queensland took a larger quantity of flour, 5,926 tons in lieu of 4,141 tons; but the shipments to New Zealand declined from 3,875 tons to 2,353 tons of flour, and from 17,234 quarters to 9,269 quarters of grain. Western Australia took 841 tons in lieu of 155 tons; and the following smaller shipments were placed:-Mauritius, 471 tons;

^{*} The harvest of 1867 produced 6,561,451 bushels, average yield 141 bushels per acre. The shipments of flour and wheat to 30 June, 63,000 tons; in comparison with 23,000 tons to same date in previous year.

Cape Town, 220 tons; Batavia, 130 tons; and Singapore, 20 tons; no flour or grain being exported to the United Kingdom.

South Australia.

Minerals.

There was a considerable increase in the quantity of mineral produce exported—the total value amounting to 824,501*l*. as compared with 620,112*l*., showing an increase of 204,389*l*., or nearly one-third more than in the previous year. Under each head of the return very satisfactory evidence is afforded of the progress made in mining during the twelvementh just closed; in no previous year had the results of mining industry proved more beneficial to the Colony. During 1866 copper formed more than one-third of our exportable produce. The following table shows the quantity as well as the value of the several kinds of mineral produce shipped, side by side, with the exports during the preceding four years.

		Mineral	•			1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Fine copper	-				Cwts.	85,872 400,591	96,039 447,944	134,055 637,791	100,196 433,795	129,272 584,509
Copper ore	124		-	-{	Tons	6,216 124,263	5,343 83,262	4,545 38,125	16,176 184,677	16,824 225,683
Lead -	-		Viz.	- {	Cwts.	426 981	271 525	63 121	82 133	1,351 2,991
Lead ore			-	-{	Tons £	97 2,266	450 9,007	567 13,107	86 1,507	648
Regulus	-		-	-{	Tons £	418 19,518	39 1,655	52 2,480		=
	,	Total val	ue		- £	547,619	542,393	691,624	620,112	824,501

It will be seen that the chief increase was in the export of manufactured copper, of which 129,272 cwts., value 584,509l., were shipped, as against 100,196 cwts. in 1865, value 433,795l.; showing an increase in quantity of 29,076 cwts. of fine copper, and in value of 150,714l. The shipments of fine copper alone, therefore, averaged 125 tons a week, as against 100 tons per week during the previous year. The shipments of copper ore were slightly greater in quantity, but were of much additional value, 16,824 tons worth 225,683l., as compared with 16,176 tons worth 184,677l.; an increase of 648 tons in quantity, but of 41,006l. in value. The shipments of lead and lead ores also increased very considerably. Of the former, 1,351 cwts. were sent away in place of 82 cwts.; and of the latter, 648 tons against 86 tons in 1865. The value of the two in 1866 was 14,309l., as compared with 1,640l. in the year previous.

During the past ten years considerably more than five millions sterling (5,368,097l.) has been introduced into South Australia in exchange for our mineral productions, finding employment for a great number of its population. In the first half of that period the exports amounted to 2,141,848l., or averaging 428,370l. yearly; and in the last five years to 3,226,249l., or an average annual shipment of 645,250l. sterling, In 1857 the shipments amounted to 458,839l., in 1861 they were 452,172l., but in 1866 they reached 824,501l.

As the value of minerals has fluctuated considerably, the following comparative statement of the quantiles of the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more than the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found to be several or the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be several or the several

Repried.	Copper.	Lead.	Copper Ore.	Lead Ore.	Regulus.
***	Cwts.	Cwts.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
le bue year 1857 -	- 56,893		8,036	1,422	79
,, 1861 -	- 61,047	1,256	7,817	15	390
1000	- 129,272	1,351	16,824	648	
Total in five years 1857-61	- 287,910	4,341	36,953	2,620	1,102
	- 545,434	2,193	49,104	1,849	509
Average of five years, 1857-6	57,582	868	7,390	524	220
,, 1862–66		438	9,821	370	102

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South Australia. From the above it will be seen that the production of fine copper has advanced from 56,893 cwts. in 1857 to 129,272 cwts. last year; the shipment of copper ores also having doubled—16,824 tons as against 8,036 tons. But the whole of this increase has occurred since the discoveries in the Wallaroo and Moonta mining district in 1861. Before that date, the average yearly shipments amounted to 57,582 cwts., or 53 tons per week, since they have averaged 109,087 cwts., or 105 tons per week. The shipments at the close of the decade amounting as above stated to 129,272 cwts., or 125 tons per week.

In addition to the benefits resulting from the employment of labour in the manufacture of fine copper, the amount of shipping engaged in importing coal for the smelting works has been vastly augmented, 82,830 tons being discharged here in 1866, or four times the quantity required five years ago.

Wool.

Considering the great losses the sheep farmer has experienced during the past few years, the augmentation in the quantity of wool shipped in 1866, although smaller than antecedent to the drought, is of an encouraging nature. There was an increase of 5,795 bales, the aggregate number shipped being 61,977, as against 56,182 in the year preceding. The total weight was 20,908,085 lbs., as compared with 18,945,425 lbs. From these amounts the weight of 3,437 bales received in transitu, viá the Murray, and from Western Australia, has to be deducted in order to arrive at the quantity produced in this Colony; after making such deductions, it appears that the quantity of South Australian wool sent away in 1866 was 58,540 bales, weighing 19,739,523 lbs., or 3,469,633 lbs. more than in 1865, showing an increase of over 20 per cent., and of 10,178 additional bales. The following table shows the shipments from each port during the year ending 31st December 1866 and two preceding years:—

Ye	ar ended 31	st Dec	ember.				1864.	1865.	1866.
							lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
From Port Adelaide		-				-	8,472,298	9,734,297	12,164,497
Port Wakefield					-	-	1,774,300	1,908,678	3,374,226
Port Robe		-		-	-		2,077,300	1,892,460	1,539,500
Port Augusta					-		2,990,403	998,315	857,188
Port MacDonne	11 -	-	14.00		-		771,656	1,217,013	1,423,919
Port Wallaroo	-					HON.		137,007	-
Port Elliot		-	-/		-	/ -	6,138	_	-
Port Victor	1,5		_			-		382,120	113,400
Port Caroline		-	•		-	-			266,798
Total ex	port of Se	outh.	Australia	an wool	-	-	16,092,095	16,269,890	19,739,528
	of other				•		1,404,456	2,675,535	1,168,562
	Total sh	ipmei	nt (lbs.)			-	17,496,551	18,945,425	20,908,085
	Total sh	ipme	nt (bales	s) -	-	-	50,946	56,182	61,977
							£	£	£
Total va	lue of Sou	ith A	ustralia	n wool		-	775,656	821,482	990,178
Total va	due of oth	er wo	ool			-	73,469	152,915	74,313
	Total val	lue	-		(j.)	7.	849,125	974,397	1,064,486

The declared value of the South Australian wool amounted to 990,173!, to which 74,313l. must be added for the produce of other Colonies, making the total shipments worth over one million sterling. The wool of this Colony shipped in 1865 was valued at 821,482l., and that of the preceding year at 775,656l.

In order to ascertain accurately the yearly progress of the pastoral interest, it is necessary, however, to remember that the shipment of wool is at its height at the close of the year, and it is often a matter of accident as to which year the export is credited. The comparison of clip with clip is best made from returns showing the shipments from July to June in each year, which are accordingly appended:—

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Year ended 30th June.		1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.
Port Adelaide		lbs. 7,550,428	lbs. 10,112,815	lbs. 10,381,539	lbs. 9,277,556	lbs. 11,448,696
Port Wakefield		2,282,400	1	1,833,800	2,981,078	2,301,826
Port Robe	-	1,488,400	1,816,300	1,760,400	1,736,460	1,639,400
Port MacDonnell	•	55,395	541,380	1,014,850	800,790	1,468,772
Port Wallaroo	-	43,500	65,000	_	77,507	-
Port Augusta	•	2,798,673	4,294,400	2,206,325	998,315	857,188
Port Victor or Port Elliot -	-		6,138	294,000	179,800	
Port Caroline		_	_	-	72,383	289,229
Total weight (lbs.)) -	14,218,796	16,836,033	17,490,914	16,123,889	18,005,111

Although useful, as giving a general idea, the figures in the above table do not show the actual production of wool in the vicinity of the port named, as it must be understood that in each case the shipments to other countries direct from the particular port only are given, the shipments coastwise not being included. When a vessel is laid on at any outport, and departs for a foregn port, the wool is returned as exported from that particular outport; but when the wool is shipped coastwise to Port Adelaide it is included in the exports from the chief port.

The following figures show the quantity and value of South Australian wool shipped in 1857, 1861, and 1866—the total quantity shipped during the first five years of the decade, and during the second, together with the average shipments for such periods:—

Period.	Quantity.	Value.	
	lbs.	£	
In the year 1857	9,695,203	504,520	
,, 1861	13,164,391	623,007	
" 1866	19,739,523	990,173	
Total in five years, 1857-61 -	51,862,905	2,606,705	
,, 1862–66 -	80,897,304	3,938,516	
Average of five years, 1857-61	10,372,581	521,341	
,, 1862–66	16,179,461	787,703	

It is gratifying to find that in 1866 we shipped 19,739,523 lbs. of wool, worth 990,173l., as compared with 13,164,391 lbs., worth 623,007l., in 1861, and 9,695,203 lbs., worth 504,520l., in 1857; showing an increase of 50 per cent. in each quinquennial period, notwithstanding that the latter five years has included the severest drought known in this Province.

Shipping.

The deficiency in the quantity of breadstuffs for export naturally affected the amount of shipping employed during 1866, but although the number of vessels arriving and departing was reduced one-sixth, the aggregate tonnage was not very much below that of 1865, a larger class of vessels having been employed than heretofore.

In 1864 617 vessels entered at ports in South Australia of 160,095 tons; in 1865 619 vessels of 183,102 tons; and in 1866 524 vessels of 169,439 tons; showing a decrease upon the preceding year of 95 vessels and 13,663 tons. The principal decrease

was in the arrivals from Victoria, amounting to 59 vessels and 17,230 tons.

From Great Britain the arrivals numbered ten less, being 59 instead of 69, the tonnage, however, being nearly the same, 40,379 and 42,074 tons respectively. The following statement gives the number and tonnage of vessels entered inwards from each country during the past three years:—

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S	hips Inward	S.	Countr	Countries.					Tonnage.			
1864.	1865.	1866.	Count	ice.			1864.	1865.	1866.			
59	69	59	Great Britain -				29,948	42,074	40,379			
260	230	171	Victoria -	_	-	-	56,111	58,199	40,969			
175	152	178	New South Wales	-	9.	-	45,535	43,022	58,796			
49	73	46	Tasmania -	-		-	5,684	8,690	5,692			
3	3	5	Queensland -	-	-	-	571	356	1,762			
17	29	20	Western Australia	-		-	5,246	8,940	6,726			
15	12	8	New Zealand -	-		-	3,234	2,515	1,620			
3	4	3	Cape of Good Hope	-			1,028	1,837	794			
1	3	1	India and Singapore			-	472	718	79:			
15	17	15	Mauritius -	-	-	-	3,370	3,746	3,38			
1	. —	_	Bourbon		-	-	369	_				
1	100	_	Hong Kong -	-	-	-	216		_			
-	3	1	Vancouver Island	-		-		1,276	32			
7	8	5	Sweden	-	-		3,671	4,257	2,816			
1	1	2	Hamburg -	-	-	-	188	160	518			
7	11	7	United States -	-		-	3,788	6,484	4,178			
-	1	_	Batavia	-	-	-		289	_			
3	3	3	China	-			664	539	693			
617	619	524	Total inw	ards	-	-	160,095	183,102	169,439			

Of the above-mentioned 524 vessels, all but seven, of 1,430 tonnage, arrived with cargoes; and all but 21 were British vessels. The total number of the crews amounted to 7,881, or 1,160 less than last year. In addition to the above, 51 vessels were entered from New South Wales, engaged in the River Murray trade, the total capacity being 3,985 tons, and the crews numbering 334 men. During the previous season only 36 vessels entered at Murray Ports, or 15 fewer than last year.

With regard to shipping outwards it is important to note that although the clearances were fewer in number by 86, the total tonnage was only 3,756 less, the falling off being

chiefly in the intercolonial trade.

In 1865 the departures numbered 601, of 174,188 tons; in 1864 they had been 619, of 161,293 tons; and in 1866 they amounted to 515 vessels, of 170,432 tons. The subjoined tabular statement shows the number of vessels departing to each country during the past three years:—

	Ships Outwa	ard.	Countr	Countries.					Tonnage.				
1864.	1865.	1866.	Count	103.			1864.	1865.	1866.				
22	34	30	Great Britain -			-	11,677	17,867	22,097				
279	248	215	Victoria -		-	-	59,473	62,402	50,184				
139	136	133	New South Wales	-	-		38,008	39,092	49,655				
21	37	13	Tasmania -		-	-	2,617	4,629	1,36				
60	36	28	New Zealand -				14,119	7,706	6,211				
20	22	22	Queensland -	-	00-10	-	3,662	3,751	5,264				
19	27	25	Western Australia		-	-	6,063	8,469	8,464				
8	6	6	Mauritius -	-	-	-	1,904	1,517	1,49				
2		-	Bourbon -		_	-	375		-,10				
21	23	12	India	_	-	-	12,188	12,692	8,554				
2	2	1	Cape of Good Hope		-	-	560	237	183				
6	4	1	Batavia -			1.2	2,210	2,104	578				
1	_		Brazils		-	4	281						
1 6	12	15	Chili				3,045	5,437	9,808				
_	_	1	United States -	1				-,10,	28				
3	2	2	China		-	-	895	1,389	1,296				
10	12	11	Guam		-	-	3,856	6,896	5,000				
619	601	515	Total out	wards			161,293	174,188	170,435				

It will be seen that the tonnage entered outwards for Great Britain was greater than in 1865, 22,097 tons as against 17,867 tons, although the number of vessels was less by four, being 30 only. The average tonnage of ships sailing for England in 1866 was, therefore, 736 tons, and in 1865, 525 tons, showing a marked improvement in the class of vessels engaged.

The following return, showing the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared

from each port during the past two years, exclusive of coasters, will be found useful, as indicating the amount of foreign trade done with the several outports:—

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Inwards.			1	Outwards.						
18	1865. 1866.		Name of Port.			18	365.	1866.		
Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.				Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
444	147,025	352	124,473	Port Adelaide			409	133,623	318	120,047
7	1,981	3	1,080	"Robe -	-	-	3	898	3	1,080
55	8,957	60	9,608	" MacDonnell	-	-	53	8,727	61	9,708
9	1,652	6	687	,, Yankalilla	-	-	11	1,750	9	1,326
16	2,190	4	697	" Willunga	-	4	35	6,142	21	3,532
55	16,685	83	29,966	" Wallaroo	-	-	59	18,067	82	30,414
11	1,699	1	793	" Augusta	-		3	665	1	633
22	2,913	15	2,135	" Victor -	-		28	4,316	20	3,692
619	183,102	524	169,439				601	174,188	515	170,432
36	4,536	51	3,985	River Murray		-	39	4,620	52	4,196
655	187,638	575	173,424	Total		- 1-	640	178,808	567	174,628

The most noticeable feature in the above statement is the great increase in the Wallaroo shipping, 83 vessels, principally coal laden, of 29,966 tons, arriving in 1866, as compared with 55, of 16,685 tons capacity, in the previous year. More than one-half of the tonnage from this port left in ballast. The shipping entered outwards at Port Wallaroo in 1866 was just one-fourth in number and tonnage of the departures from Port Adelaide.

The number of vessels registered as belonging to Port Adelaide is 126, of 16,521 tons, an addition of 13 over the previous year. Fifteen vessels were built during the twelve months, the total tonnage being 948 tons; 25 vessels were registered, and 12 registers were cancelled.

Land, Cultivation, and Live Stock.

The following extracts from my eighth annual report on the agricultural statistics (year ended 31st March 1867) bring this subject down to the latest date:—

"During the past year 214,431 acres of country and suburban land were added to the area alienated from the Crown, a reduction of 102,045 acres on the quantity disposed of by the Government during the preceding twelve months. The total area of purchased land in the occupation of lease or freeholders on the 31st of December last was 3,424,721 acres, or 20 acres per head of the estimated population; or at the same rate as existed at the date of the census, nine months previous.

"Nearly two-thirds, or 2,161,694 acres, of the total alienated lands is occupied by freeholders, showing an increase of 191,105 acres upon the preceding year. A large proportion of the remaining 1,263,027 acres of purchased land is held under leases, with right of or covenant to purchase, or is rented in conjunction with freehold

"In compliance with the wishes of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on Preparation of Returns of last session, I have endeavoured to obtain data for the compilation of tables showing the number, extent, and average area of the several holdings under specified classes for each district of the Province.

"Excluding areas of 500 acres and upwards, the holdings are divided into eight classes, and show a total number of 10,687, with an aggregate extent of 1,303,865 acres, the average size of each holding being 122 acres. No distinction has been drawn as to the nature of the tenure, in some instances it being freehold, in others freehold and rented land in combination, and in many leasehold only.

"From the following abstract relating to the whole Province—and similar information can be extracted from the returns for each district council and county were it necessary—it appears that the largest class of holders are those farming from 100 to 200 acres, their number being 2,713, or 25.4 per cent. of the whole body, and their holdings averaging 144.6 acres. The next most numerous class are the farmers of from 50 to 100 acres, of whom there are 2,214, whose farms average 76.4 acres each, and who form 20.7 per cent. of the whole body. Next come 1,715 holders of farms varying from 200 to 350 acres each, forming 16 per cent. of the total occupiers, and with an average of 259.4

South Australia. acres to each holding. There are 601 occupiers of farms of 350 to 500 acres extent, the average being 412.8 acres to each occupier of this class, who represent 5.6 per cent. of the whole.

"The above-mentioned four classes include very nearly the great bulk of the agriculturists, and, as will be seen, more than two-thirds of the whole body. There must however be added the holders of areas of 500 acres and upwards in the solely agricultural counties of Adelaide, Gawler, Light, and Hindmarch, numbering 523 with an average

area of 1,187 acres.

"It must also be borne in mind that out of the total number of holders, 10,687, no fewer than 1,188 are occupying plots averaging only 2.6 acres, 992 occupiers averaging 8.5 acres, 609 occupiers averaging 20.6 acres, and 655 occupiers with an average of 38.2 acres each; or together 3,444 holders, being one-third of the total number. A large proportion of these holdings is under cultivation as gardens, orchards, and vineyards, or is merely fenced pasture. Holdings of one acre and under are excluded from these returns.

"The following table gives the particulars referred to:-

Class.		No. of Holdings.	Extent.	Average Area.	Per cent. of Total Holders.	Per cent. of Total Area.
More than 1 and under 5 acres	-	1,188	3,114	2.6	11.1	0.24
,, 5 ,, 15 ,,	-	992	8,408	8.5	9.3	0.65
" 15 " 30 "	-	609	12,577	20.6	5.7	0.96
" 30 " 50 "	-	655	25,031	38 · 2	6.2	1.92
" 50 " 100 "	-	2,214	169,110	76.4	20.7	12.97
,, 100 ,, 200 ,,	-	2,713	392,492	144.6	25.4	30.10
200 250	-	1,715	445,017	259.4	16.0	34.13
,, 200 ,, 500 ,, ,, 350 ,, 500 ,,	-	601	248,116	412.8	5.6	19.03
		10,687	1,303,865	122.0	100.0	100.00

"Large areas of land have been enclosed for agricultural purposes during the year; but the very large increase shown under the head 'Enclosed Land' is mainly due to the continued fencing of country devoted to sheep pasture, especially in the southeastern district. The total area enclosed, 4,539,089 acres, exceeds the area sold by the Crown by 1,114,368 acres, or one-third, representing approximately the extent of fenced runs; whilst deducting the cultivated land from the total area enclosed leaves 3,799,375 acres of fenced land available for depasturage.

acres of fenced land available for depasturage.

"The increase in the area of land brought under cultivation was slightly above the additional quantity shown during the previous year, being 79,145 acres and 72,794 acres respectively. The total quantity of ploughed land was 739,714 acres as compared with

660,569 acres in 1865-6, showing an addition of 12 per cent.

"The ratio of cultivated to untilled land continues as one to four 20 per cent., or one in every five acres of purchased land, being under the plough, notwithstanding the large areas disposed of during the past few years. Tillage has increased more rapidly than population, there being 4.37 acres cultivated for each member of the community; or 13 acres for each male of 14 years of age and upwards; being one acre more per head than last season.

"The proportion of land under wheat, as compared with the total tillage, was the same as in the previous year, viz., 62 per cent. Two and three-quarter acres of wheat were sown to each head of the population, or one-quarter of an acre more than last year. The increase in acreage, as compared with the previous season, amounted to 47,020 acres, or $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the total area under wheat in 1866 being 457,628 acres as against 410,608 acres in 1865. The rate of increase in the past season was more than twice

as great as that shown in the year preceding.

"Following upon the very poor harvest of 1865-6, when the average yield was only 8 bushels 44 lbs. per acre, the average produce of the wheat crop of the past season appears large, it reaching 14 bushels 20 lbs. per acre, or an increase of 5 bushels 36 lbs. to the acre. The yield, nevertheless, was but two and one-third bushels above the average of the past eight seasons, which included two years of dearth. Still it was the most prolific yet recorded. In judging of the relative productiveness of the soil of South Australia as compared with that of other countries, it must be borne in mind that a great portion of the land has been sown with wheat for many successive years; and being in the hands of small proprietors has received only the minimum of cultivation, and has been planted with this cereal in many instances only because of its cheapness in cost of pro-

duction and gathering, and often irrespective of soil or climate. This, of course, tends to reduce the average for the whole Colony; but there are very many districts AUSTRALIA. where farming is carried on on a large scale and with appropriate appliances, where the yield of this cereal is from five to ten bushels above the average shown by the

SOUTH

"The total produce of the crop amounted to 6,561,451 bushels, an increase of 2,973,651 bushels, or 83 per cent., on that of the preceding season. It has been mentioned that the increase in the breadth of land reaped was $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., so that this bountiful addition to our cereal product resulted from the favourable season. following table gives the total area of land under cultivation, the acreage under wheat, the gross produce of the harvest, and the average yield per acre for each of the past nine seasons:-

	Seaso	n.		Acres cultivated.	Acres under Wheat.	Produce, Wheat.		erage Acre.
			(V (T)			Bushels.	В.	lbs.
1858-9				264,462	188,703	2,109,544	11	11
859-6	0 .		-	361,884	218,216	2,103,411	9	38
1860-1	-		-	428,816	273,672	3,576,593	13	4
1861-2				486,667	310,636	3,410,756	10	59
1862-3				494,511	320,160	3,841,824	12	0
1863-4			-	555,968	335,758	4,691,919	14	0
1864-5	ili.			587,775	390,836	4,252,949	11	0
1865-6				660,569	410,608	3,587,800	8	44
1866-7				739,714	457,628	6,561,451	14	20

"The total quantity of hay sown was 111,339 acres, or 9,343 acres more than in The aggregate produce was 147,159 tons as compared with 88,731 tons, an

increase of 58,428 tons, or 66 per cent.

"There was a large increase in the breadth of land sown with barley and oats as compared with last season, although the total area under these cereals is comparatively trifling; and it seems a matter for consideration whether or not great advantages would not result from their more general cultivation. Of barley 11,723 acres were sown as against 9,362 acres, showing an increase of 2,361 acres. The total yield of grain was 235,941 bushels as compared with 130,679 bushels last year; the average for the two seasons being 20 bushels 6 lbs. and 13 bushels 48 lbs. respectively. The quantity of oats reaped was 87,143 bushels off 3,909 acres—an increase of 44,501 bushels and 1,037 acres over the previous year. The average yield was 22 bushels 12 lbs., or 7 bushels 18 lbs. per acre more than in 1865-6.

"The acreage under potatoes last season was only 2,526, or 249 acres less than in The produce amounted to 6,045 tons, or 1,222 more than in the previous 1865-6.

"The cultivation of peas is increasing rapidly, the area sown amounting to 1,853 acres

as compared with 969 acres last year, or 884 acres additional.

"Permanent artificial grasses show a large increase, but their cultivation is almost entirely confined to the south-eastern district. Lucerne is more generally distributed. Of the former 5,027 acres were grown, and of the latter 1,306 acres. The increase upon the two was 1,501 acres. Other minor crops show a considerable decrease, the total acreage being only 1,918 acres, or 2,098 acres less than last year.

"Owing to the comparison being made with the year in which the census was taken, when returns are collected from every small occupier as well as from farmers, there is an apparent falling off in the area of gardens, orchards, and vineyards, which together amounted only to 4,753 acres as compared with 5,329, or a decrease of 576 acres, being

nearly the amount of increase shown in last year's return.

"The decrease in the extent of vineyards is also equivalent to the increase exhibited last year, the total area being 6,361 as against 6,629 acres, or 268 acres less. The number of vines returned is also less from the same cause, the total number being 7,005,383, or 356,480 fewer; of these 5,698,609 were in bearing and 1,306,774 unproductive. The diminution in the latter is probably also partly owing to the smaller attention now devoted to this husbandry, owing to its at present unfavourable prospects.

"In view of the exceedingly dry season, the decreased production of the vintage of 1866, although general throughout the Province, is not so great as might have been anticipated, whilst the wine is understood to have been of a superior character. quantity of wine made was 734,983 gallons as compared with 839,979 gallons, or 104,996 138

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. gallons less than in 1865. An ordinary vintage would thus give five gallons of wine for each man, woman, and child in the Province. The quantity of grapes returned as sold or otherwise disposed of than in wine-making was 29,467 cwt. (1,500 tons), slightly below the quantity specified in the previous season.

"The whole Colony shows an increase of 132,302 sheep as compared with a decrease in the previous season of 326,922; the total number being 3,911,610 against 3,779,308 last year. The increase therefore only amounted to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; that of 1864 was $13\frac{1}{2}$

per cent.

"Again a large diminution appears in the number of cattle, although not so great as in the previous year; the decrease in 1867 being 34,237 head, or 12,598 short of the deficiency in 1866. The rate of decrease, however, is only two per cent. lower, being 21 per cent. during the twelve months. The total number depasturing is 123,820 as compared with 158,057 head in 1866, and 204,892 head in 1865.

"Ten years ago we counted 310,460 head of great cattle, equivalent to three for each individual of the population; at present there is but three-fourths of a beast. In 1864 we only imported 400 head of fat cattle; now our requirements necessitate the purchase

of between 6,000 and 7,000 yearly, chiefly from the Darling Runs."

Railways.

The railway returns exhibit a great deficiency in the goods traffic, owing to the failure in the wheat crops, the carriage of cereals being the principal source of revenue. There was a slight increase in the number of passengers, but a small decrease in receipts from that source.

The total number of passengers conveyed on both lines was 405,502, as compared with 402,550 in 1865. The total goods traffic amounted to 208,984 tons, or a decrease of no less than 52,199 tons, or one-fifth. Subjoined is a statement of the gross receipts and expenditure in each branch during the past three years:—

		1864.	1865.	1866.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Gross Receipts.					£	£	c
Number of passengers -		359,035	402,550	405,502	æ	T	£
Passenger receipts -		- 000,000			32,274	37,016	36,183
Tons of goods	-	- 255,928	261,183	208,984		-	_
Goods receipts	-				94,405	93,574	75,247
Other receipts	-		-11	-	2,567	2,690	2,701
	Tota	1 Receipts	-	-£	129,246	133,280	114,131
GR	oss Exp	ENDITURE.					
Management					1,540	1,375	1,735
Locomotive department -			of Francisco	\$ 100 X 5	19,366	18,824	16,150
Maintenance of line -	- 4	-	5-1-2	+ / / / - /	22,358	22,334	24,161
Other working expenses (include	ling good	ls agency) -	·		56,328	71,936	61,923
	Tota	1 Expenditure		- £	99,593	114,469	103,979

It will be observed that the gross receipts amounted to 114,131l., or 19,149l. less than in 1865, nearly the whole deficiency being in the goods branch.

Main Roads.

The Central Board of Main Roads during 1866 constructed 67 miles of main road, making the total length of main lines metalled and completed at the close of the year to be 416 miles, of which 319 miles have been constructed during the past ten years. The length metalled during the previous year was 54 miles, showing an increase of 13. Only about one-fourth of the total length of the declared main lines is as yet constructed. The aggregate expenditure during the ten years was 876,634l., all of which was provided out of the general revenue, and, of course, includes cost of maintenance. The amount expended in 1866 was 169,201l., as compared with 111,129l. during the previous year.

The municipalities and district councils having charge of the branch and district roads do not furnish any return as to the extent of their works, but the amount returned

by them as spent upon works of public improvement during 1866 was 70,886l., one moiety being raised by rate and the other being a grant-in-aid from the general revenue. Australia.

Postal Communication.

The aggregate number of post offices opened in 1866 was 226, or five more than last year; and the length of mail routes 3,797, in place of 3,337 miles. The extension of postal facilities is more marked in the greater distance travelled by the mails, which increased from 790,155 to 809,160 miles. A large increase also appears in the number of letters and newspapers carried, the former having augmented one-fourth during the last three years, as shown by the following figures:

			1864.	1865.	1866.
Number of letters			2,189,474	2,444,207	2,703,105
Number of newspapers -	- /	-	1,457,914	1,760,415	1,968,120
Distance travelled by mails	-	-	733,526	790,155	809,160
			£	£	£
Income	-	-	22,001	25,023	27,987
Expenditure		1	21,485	23,417	27,062

Exclusive of the ocean mail service, the cost of which is not included above, the income of the Post Office has exceeded the expenditure during the past three years, notwithstanding the extension of its business to very distant and sparsely peopled localities. The advantages of the money-order system are freely offered in connexion with this and the telegraph department; offices being open throughout the Province corresponding with those in the neighbouring Colonies, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs.

Very considerable extension appears in the operation of the telegraph, no less than 13 new stations being opened during the course of the year; the length of wire being extended by 392 miles. At the close of the year there were 58 telegraph offices open in South Australia; the length of line opened was 1,075 miles, and of wire erected 1,565 miles; the whole having been constructed since 1856, and bringing us into instantaneous communication with almost every town of importance in the neighbouring Colonies.

The number of messages transmitted was 121,153—an increase of 8,809; the total receipts amounting to 12,413l., as compared with 11,735l. in the year preceding. A decrease appears in the amount of intercolonial business, but it was more than compensated for by the additional receipts on the local lines, especially those traversing the northern and south-eastern districts of the Province.

Conclusion.

In concluding this report, I would beg of those having little time for consideration of statistical details simply to refer to the concluding table, showing a bird's-eye view of the progress of South Australia since its foundation as a British Province down to the close of the thirtieth year of its existence.

> I have, &c. J. BOOTHBY, (Signed) Assistant Secretary and Government Statist.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 20.

No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Hampton to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 36.) Government House, Perth, My LORD, February 20, 1867.

I have the honour to enclose the Blue Book of Western Australia for the year 1866, forwarded to me by the Colonial Secretary with the accompanying letter, and showing, beyond all doubt, a steady advancement in the prosperous condition of the Colony, which it has been my pleasing duty to notice in transmitting similar documents for preceding years.

I have, &c. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.P., J. S. HAMPTON. (Signed) Governor.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth, February 18, 1867.

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward, for transmission to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Western Australian Blue Book for the past

1. The estimated revenue for the year (including the grant-in-aid for the Governor's Revenue and expenditure.] salary, and for magistracy and police) was 76,059l.; the actual revenue was 89,382l., being 13,323l. in excess of the estimate and 11,440l. above that received in 1865. The increase arose from large importations of goods subject to ad valorem duty, of spirits, and tobacco. The sales of land show also an addition of 1,385l., and the extended occupation of Crown lands under lease has swelled that item by 2,428l.

The estimated expenditure was 76,059l., the actual expenditure amounted to 84,652l., or 8,593l. in excess of the estimate, and 9,667l. beyond that in 1865. It is, however, satisfactory to observe that though the expenditure has thus increased it has been kept considerably within the amount of revenue received, and that a balance of some thousands

of pounds was available at the end of the year.

The increase of expenditure was caused partly by the payment of persons employed in the survey, customs, police, and judicial departments, principally in connexion with the extended territory on the north-west coast, and by some 4,000l. expended on useful

works throughout the Colony.

2. The Colony is now free from debt, the debentures due to the Bishop of Perth, amounting to 1,750%. having been paid off during 1866; and in this respect Western Australia may now bear happy comparison with her sister Colonies.

3. A large sum of money has been expended during the year in public works, especially on the roads and bridges throughout the Colony; this money, added to the convict labour which has been fairly distributed in all parts of the Colony (with the exception of the north district), has caused the accomplishment of very many useful works which it would hardly have been practicable to undertake had the money or the labour alone been

Bridges have been erected in various parts of the Colony lately occupied, the existing roads have been kept in good order, and new tracks cleared; the completion of the bridges over the Swan at Fremantle, and other works of a similar nature at Perth and Guildford, have afforded great satisfaction to the Colonists generally, and will be standing memorials of the advantages the Colony has derived from convict labour.

4. A review of the proceedings of the Legislative Council during the last session calls for little remark, the ordinances passed being generally of a routine nature. The question of an amendment in the constitution of that Council still excites considerable interest, and the decision of Her Majesty's Government is awaited with anxiety.

5. The addition to the population during the past year is 805, making a total number of 21,065 persons in the Colony of whom nearly two-thirds are males. The demand for family sowwerts is on the increase these interested being guidely cheerled by marriage.

female servants is on the increase, those imported being quickly absorbed by marriage. The question of the importation of labour after the expiration of the present year is one

Public debt.

Public works.

Legislation.

Population.

requiring very careful consideration, and of paramount importance to the Colony; any stoppage, however short, in the periodical supply of labour would be fraught with very serious inconvenience to the Colonists, and it is to be hoped arrangements may be made for a regular supply of free immigrants, both male and female, immediately on the cessa-

tion of transportation.

6. It is gratifying to observe that the interest evinced in the Post Office Savings Bank Savings has in no way decreased, the number of depositors having increased from 965 to 1,304, Bank. and the aggregate sum deposited now amounting to upwards of 12,000l. The sum required for interest is met by that accruing from the portion of the deposits invested on mortgage, and the working of the banks is carried on with very little clerical assistance beyond what would be otherwise necessary. In connexion with this subject it may be mentioned, that during the past year branches of the National Bank of Australasia have been established in Perth and elsewhere, and that the competition in banking has, among other good results, caused interest to be granted on sums deposited in private banks, though without, as might have been anticipated, in any way affecting the Post Office Savings Bank.

7. The imports for 1866 have exceeded those of 1865 by no less a sum than 83,494l. Imports and An increase may be seen under nearly every head, and the amount of goods imported for exports. household use and in the way of haberdashery has so increased as to lead to a belief that the storekeepers must have a very large stock of goods on hand, which may probably reduce the importations of the present year. Live stock to the extent of 8,000% has been brought from the Eastern Colonies.

The exports on the other hand have decreased by a sum of 16,173l., the value of exports being less, of horses, by 3,000l.; flour, 6,000l.; timber, 9,000l.; and wool, 9,000l.

The export of sandal wood has, however, increased by 10,000l.

The drought of 1865-6 affecting the grain crops caused a less export of flour during 1866, and also a decrease in the return of wool; the reduction of amount on these

articles is quite exceptional.

8. A steady annual increase is observable in the tonnage entered at and cleared out of Shipping, the various ports in the Colony, as also in the amount of land under cultivation. The cultivation drought of 1865-6, though by no means so severe as in the Eastern Colonies, caused the stock, &c. loss of much stock, and the returns of cattle show a less number by nearly 4,000. number of sheep has increased from 445,044 to 481,040, but this is greatly to be attributed to the importation of sheep from the neighbouring Colonies and their increase. Future years will show large increases under this head.

north-west

9. The settlement on the north-west coast is progressing steadily; the country appears New settleto be admirably adapted for stock of all kinds, the increase from which is in excess ment on

of that from other parts.

Considerable attention is attracted to this settlement from all parts of Australia, and now that the necessary staff of officers are on the spot, and a town has been established, there is every reason to believe that its future progress will be rapid and

It is much to be desired that better means of communication existed between Port Walcott and head quarters, and that the exertions of those interested in procuring

steam vessels may be successful.

The report of Mr. Hooley, who travelled overland from Champion Bay to Port Walcott with stock, both as to the practicability of the journey and the nature of the intervening country, has done much to connect the interests of these two portions of the Colony, and to lessen the expense attendant on the commencement of operations at Port Walcott.

10. The sale of land during 1866 has slightly exceeded that in 1865, but as a large Land. number of the Class B. leases of 1851 fall in during the current year, the purchase of land by those desirous of retaining their runs will be greatly increased during the ensuing twelve months.

The amount of land under lease during the same time has increased by 3,175,576 acres, and there is every reason to believe that this acreage will go on steadily increasing. The amount of land under lease has very nearly quadrupled during the past ten years.

11. The number of cases tried before the Supreme Court in 1866 is slightly in excess Crime. of the previous year, but there is nothing in any of the cases calling for special remark. The number of summary convictions is less by 210, and, though large, is for the most part composed of offences of a very trifling nature.

In conclusion, I may observe, that the financial state of the Colony is very satisfactory, that the revenue is steadily on the increase, that every interest is progressing, and though there are those who look forward with anxiety to the stoppage of transportation,

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WESTERN

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and the effect such a measure must have upon the finances of the Colony, there is every Australia. reasonable hope that the many sources of wealth now opening up in various ways, may, with fostering care, prevent that stagnation which would inevitably occur if, in the absence of such openings, the convict expenditure and labour were to cease.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency Governor Hampton, &c. &c. &c.

FRED. P. BARLEE.

NEW ZEALAND. No. 21.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 21.

(Not received.)

MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.

GIBRATTAR.

No. 22

GIBRALTAR.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-General Sir R. AIREY to the Right Hon, Lieutenant-General J. PEEL, M.P.

(No. 30.)

SIR, Gibraltar, February 27, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1866, the accuracy of which has been certified by the Colonial Secretary.

The revenue for the year was 34,744l, 2s. 5d. sterling, and the expenditure 30,4221. 13s. 3d. sterling, the excess of revenue over expenditure 4,3211. 9s. 2d. sterling.

In pages 28 to 31 are seen the increase and decrease on various sources of revenue

from the preceding year.

The principal items upon which an increase has been derived are, --

£ s. d. Duty on wines 537 4 10 Rent of wine houses -398 19 11 Auction fees 691 17 Port department 259 Fees, Supreme Court 327 19 3

The only item showing any marked decrease is that on duty on spirits, viz.,

This decrease is accounted for by the fact that in 1865 a very large stock of spirits was laid in by dealers, in anticipation of the increased duties authorized in August of that year.

The quantity laid in was so large that the revenue on this item was augmented by

1,086l. sterling over that of the previous year.

The increase of revenue on duty on spirits in 1866 over 1864, amounting, however, to 8151. sterling, I consider to be a fair criterion of the probable annual increment to the revenue on this head, owing to the altered scale of duties sanctioned in 1865.

The resident population, according to a census taken in 1860, amounted to 15,462, and is exclusive of the military, the convicts, and aliens on temporary permits, varying

from three days to a year.

The number of births among the resident population was 484, marriages 176, and

Among alien strangers and non-residents the deaths were 29.

Among the military there were 144 births, 17 marriages, and 50 deaths.

Under the head of miscellaneous returns are inserted the number of cases heard and

disposed of in the various courts of law in Gibraltar.

The schools are nine in number, in which are educated 1,060 boys and 907 girls; besides these there are seven regimental schools, in which are instructed 242 boys and 224 girls.

The Right Hon. Lieut.-Gen. J. Peel, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c. (Signed) RICHARD AIREY, Lieut.-Gen. Commanding and Governor.

MALTA. No. 23.

MALTA.

No. 23.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Administrator of the Government to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 59.) My LORD DUKE, Palace, Valletta, May 29, 1867. I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Malta for the year 1866.

I have, &c. (Signed) JNO. GRANT, Lt.-General, His Grace the Right Honourable the Duke Administrator of the Government. of Buckingham and Chandos,

> &c. &c. &c.

HELIGOLAND AND FALKLAND ISLANDS.

HELIGO. LAND.

No. 24,

HELIGOLAND.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Maxse to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham AND CHANDOS.

MY LORD DUKE, Heligoland, August 31, 1867. I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

The delay in forwarding the same arose from my desire that the revenue should

present a favourable appearance as regards the question of taxation.

I deeply regret, however, to state that the very moderate taxes voted for the year 1866

have not as yet been paid.

Notwithstanding this, however, the public debt has been again reduced by the comparatively large sum of 760l. 9s. 7d., which is an increase of 159l. 17s. 5d. on the reduction of last year.

I regret to say that we have not been enabled to work the oyster-bank during the year 1866, but I trust that the Island will be enabled in the course of next year to come

to some advantageous arrangement on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FITZ MAXSE, Br. Lieut.-Col.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 25.

FALKLANDS.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Robinson to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 57.) Government House, Falkland Islands, July 3, 1867. My LORD DUKE, I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Falkland Islands for the year 1866.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue collected in the Colony amounted to 1,186l. 0s. 3d., and exceeded that of 1865 by 53l. 1s. 4d.

3. The parliamentary grant in aid of the revenue for the financial year ended the

31st March last was 5,875l.

4. The expenditure of last year (7,125l. 2s. 11d.) was 971l. 14s. 1d. less than that of 1865.

5. It is not, I hope, unreasonable to anticipate that this Colony, improving as it is in many important respects, will eventually provide by local taxation for the maintenance of a modest establishment, and cease to be a burden on the mother country. But that time has not yet come, and until pastoral occupation shall have spread over a larger surface of the country than is at present taken up, and until the population shall have increased in proportion, we must look to the Imperial Parliament for a continuance of the assistance heretofore so liberally extended to us-assistance which none can grudge or regret, considering the great saving of life and property from shipwreck to which our occupation of these Islands has been already subservient.

Imports and Exports.

6. These tables are satisfactory. The imports, valued at 21,445l., exceeded those of 1865 by 6,405l. The exports amounted to 21,480l., being an increase of 4,165l. as compared with 1865.

Shipping.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

- 7. The shipping returns, too, are very gratifying. During 1865, 15 vessels visited the port for repairs, 24 for water and provisions, and 31 for the ordinary purposes of trade; showing an increase of 12,699 tons over the tonnage of 1865.
- 8. The resort of shipping to these Islands forming one of our chief sources of prosperity, I beg to subjoin an extract from a letter recently addressed to me by Rear Admiral Hastings, expressing approval of the arrangements of the port with respect to the coaling and provisioning of vessels calling here for stores or refreshments. On the 25th February last Admiral Hastings wrote:

 "Having called at the Falkland Islands in Her Majesty's ship 'Zealous,' on my way

"to the Pacific, it affords me great pleasure to inform your Excellency that Messrs. J. M. Dean and Son supplied the ship with 408 tons of good coal in less than 16 " working hours, and that I have found every facility at Port Stanley in obtaining all " supplies and provisions.

"I consider that any ship bound to the Pacific would find it advantageous to call at

"the Falkland Islands to obtain any supplies which may be required."

9. I trust that the publication of this letter will tend to a more general recognition of the great value of this harbour as a port of call for vessels trading round the Horn, and so be of service to the Colony.

Labour Market.

10. As the business of the port increases so does the demand for all kinds of garden produce; but the high price of labour keeps back the cultivation of the soil and places the employer at the mercy of the employed. Unskilled workmen will not take less than 5s. a day, and at times their wages rise to extravagant rates. A short time since the following notice was published by one of the local merchants :-

"Labourers wanted to discharge pig iron from the condemned ship 'Orange Nassau,' wages, 15s. a day." Very indifferent female servants earn from 20l. to 35l. per

annum. Men servants command from 48l. to 60l.

At the same time it is desirable to remark that the demand for labour is somewhat uncertain. It fluctuates in proportion to the number of casualties at sea in the neighbourhood of the Islands.

Population.

11. In 1862, the population of the Colony amounted to 624. In 1864, the date of the last census, it was as under :---

Males -397 212 Females Aliens (male and female) 53 662 Total

But it must be borne in mind that this is not an agricultural country, and that our scanty and slowly increasing population bears no comparison to the trade and maritime importance of the Colony.

Education.

12. The only school in the Colony, with the exception of the Colonial Chaplain's Sunday class, is the Government school in Stanley. I am happy to say that the inhabitants generally are fully alive to the necessity of procuring for their children the best instruction which the place affords, and that consequently the attendance at the Government school is very good. The system of education is strictly secular, and great care is taken not to wound the scruples of such of the scholars as do not belong to the Established Church.

The Protestant children receive religious instruction from the Colonial Chaplain on Wednesdays and Fridays, not in the school-room, but in an adjoining chapel; and by this means, the school is rendered available for children of all denominations.

13. It is satisfactory to feel that a sound and sufficient education is within reach of every child in the settlement.

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Falkland Işlands.

Crime.

14. The chief magistrate reports that "of the 16 persons committed during the year "1866, only three belonged to the Colony; all the rest belonged to English and foreign merchant vessels calling at this port."

Sheep farming.

- 15. I am happy to report that the business of sheep farming promises to advance with rapid strides. The bulk of the available land on the East Falkland is already in the hands of private individuals, and I am now about to open the West Falkland to intending settlers.
- 16. These Islands contain about 4,160,000 acres, and (assuming that cattle farming will eventually give way to the more lucrative and suitable occupation of sheep farming) are capable of carrying at least 1,040,000 sheep.
- 17. The average weight of the Falkland Island fleece is 7 lbs., and the wool which we send home is worth 10d. per pound, unwashed. At this rate 1,040,000 sheep would yield annually 7,280,000 lbs. of wool, the value of which would be over 300,000l.
- 18. With this prospect before us, I think I am justified in looking forward to the time (ante, paragraph 5,) when the Colony will "cease to be a burden on the mother "country."

19. I beg to append a copy of the regulations for the disposal of the Crown Lands on the West Falkland, recently adopted by the Governor in Council in pursuance of the instructions contained in Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 25, of the 5th January last.

instructions contained in Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 25, of the 5th January last. I also forward a letter from the Surveyor General, who visited the West Falkland at my request in the month of April for the purpose of collecting certain information of which I stood in need respecting the wild cattle on that Island and the general character of the country.

General Remarks.

- 20. The climate of the Falklands, though disagreeable on account of the high winds that usually prevail, is exceedingly healthy. In summer the wind rises in the morning, blows hard during the middle of the day, and falls away in the afternoon. On a calm day the sun has considerable power, but at other times the heat is neutralized by the strong keen wind; and it is only here and there in sheltered nooks that grain can be ripened or European flowers brought to any degree of perfection. There are several beautiful flowers indigenous to the Islands; but, with one or two exceptions, these all creep and blossom on the ground; and the only approach to a tree is the Falkland Islands box, a species of veronica which grows to a height of perhaps three feet, and affords no protection either to man or beast. The natural conformation of the ground is good, but owing to the want of timber, and to the sombre colour of the grass, the general appearance of the country is extremely barren and desolate.
- 21. In winter the weather is, happily, less boisterous than in summer. Were this not so, the cold from May to September would be almost unendurable.
- 22. European vegetables thrive exceedingly well. The Falkland Islands Improvement Society (a society recently formed for the encouragement of market gardening), held its first meeting in April last. I never saw, in any part of the world, finer potatoes, turnips, cauliflowers, &c., than were then exhibited. Every house in Stanley has its plot of garden ground attached, and, owing to the number of vessels that call here during the year, the cottagers find a ready and profitable sale for their surplus produce.
- 23. Rabbits abound in various parts of the Islands, and wild geese and water fowl are everywhere plentiful. The harbours swarm with excellent fish, and trout are found in the rivers of the interior.
- 24. With high wages and food in abundance, the settlers, it is almost superfluous to say, are prosperous and contented. Poverty and distress are unknown, sickness rarely visits the Colony, the people are loyal, the laws are respected, and harmony and good feeling prevail amongst all classes of society.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 25.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Enclosure 1 in No. 25.

A PROCLAMATION.

William Robinson, Governor.



By his Excellency William Cleaver Francis Robinson, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

Whereas it is desirable to amend the Land Proclamation of the 4th April 1861, so far as regards the unoccupied Lands of the Crown on the West Falkland and Islands adjacent thereto:

It is hereby notified for general information that the following are the terms and conditions on which from and after this date those lands as aforesaid will be granted.

The disposal of the unoccupied lands of the Crown on the East Falkland will continue to be regulated, as heretofore, by the Proclamation of the 4th April 1861.

1. Any person may on application to the Governor, and on payment at the rate of (5l.) five pounds per 6,000 acres, obtain a licence to occupy a station on the West Falkland Island or the Islands adjacent thereto.

2. Every such licence will be given in writing and be for one year only and not renewable, and will

be subject to such conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by the Governor.

3. The extent of each station will be determined by the Governor, the boundaries thereof by the

Surveyor General with the approval of the Governor.

4. At any time before the expiration of the licence the licensee may obtain a lease of his station for 20 years at a rental of (101) ten pounds a year for each 6,000 acres, provided he proves to the satisfaction of the Governor, that he has built on the land a house of wood or stone walls not less than 24 feet by 12 feet and 6 feet high, and has stocked his land in the proportion of at least 50 cattle or horses or 100 sheep to each 6,000 acres.

5. It will be a condition of the lease that, during its continuance, the station shall be kept stocked with at least the number of stock before specified, and also be occupied by the lessee or any person in his employment, and in case of any failure in this condition, it shall be lawful for the Governor to

resume possession of the station.

6. The lessee of any station must within five years from the date of his lease purchase a portion of his leasehold land in one or more blocks as may be most convenient, in the proportion of 160 acres to each 6,000 acres; such land to be purchased at the upset price of land for the time being, not exceeding (8s.) eight shillings per acre. And the lessee may at any time during his lease purchase any further quantity of land in his station at the same rate of payment.

7. If the lessee of any station under this Proclamation shall be desirous of obtaining an extension of his lease he shall give notice thereof to the Governor six months before the expiration of his lease, and the Governor shall give notice thereof to the Fracetive Council determine whether it is

and the Governor shall, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, determine whether it is expedient that the land shall be sold or reserved for any public purpose. If the land be not required for sale or otherwise, then the Governor may grant to the lessee an extension of his lease for such time and on such terms and conditions as to rent and occupation as the Governor and Council for the time being may determine.

8. Every lease under this Proclamation shall be transferable, subject only to the condition of giving

notice of such transfer to the Colonial Secretary.

9. The rent of each station shall be paid by the lessee to the Colonial Secretary at Stanley, yearly in advance, from the day of the grant of the lease, and if delay be made in such payment the Colonial Secretary shall, within two months after the rent is due, send notice, thereof to the lessee (if in Stanley), and if the rent be not paid within one month after such notice or (if the lessee be not resident in Stanley) if the rent be not paid within six months after it is due, the lease shall be null and void, and the Governor may resume possession of the station without making to the former lessee any compensation.

10. No licence shall be granted to occupy any station within six miles, by land, of any township which may hereafter be proclaimed.

11. Every lease shall confer the right to use the land for pastoral purposes, and shall be subject to all such reservations as may be prescribed by the Governor and as are contained in the printed Crown grants of land in this Colony; and the Governor shall have power at any time to proclaim a public road through any station.

12. Every station shall be defined with reference to the nautical chart of the Colony without requiring

any further survey

Adopted this 24th day of June 1867, by his Excellency the Governor in Council. H. Byng,

Acting Colonial Secretary and Clerk of Councils.

Enclosure 2 in No. 25.

Enclosure 2 in No. 25.

SIR, Stanley, June 20, 1867. I have the honour to report to your Excellency, that, in accordance with your instructions I embarked on board the "Foam" on the 17th of April last, and proceeded to the West Falklands, where I arrived on the 20th, and landed at White Rock Harbour, not venturing into Manybranch as the winds were adverse. I examined the locality of White Rock, and estimate the probable number of cattle there and towards Tamar Harbour to be about 700. Round the coast the camp is dry, and

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FALKLAND ISLANDS.

I should say well adapted for sheep farming; on the higher ground the grass is of a white, long, coarse nature, not a fattening description, and only valuable as a winter food when the shorter and more nourishing grasses are covered with snow.

On the 21st, I proceeded from White Rock Harbour in a south-west direction for about 24 miles skirting Manybranch Harbour and leaving the Six Hills to the right; the whole of this district is good for sheep, dry and well sheltered. All round Manybranch, as far as the eye could reach, herds of wild cattle were to be seen, and taking line from Port Howard to the head of the Warrah River, I estimate their numbers to be about 3,000.

Beyond the first stream running westward (which is a branch of the Warrah) the camp has been burnt, in consequence of which I did not see so many animals as about Manybranch, at the same time I notice a change in the character of the country, the hills are more abrupt, the streams more frequent, and the long white grass takes the place of the shorter and more succulent ones.

The tracks of wild cattle are very deep and much worn, showing the animals frequent this district

more in the winter than the summer.

On the 23rd, owing to the snow and our horses being tired, did not move camp; but I examined as well as I could the locality of our tent, which was under Mount Edgeworth, and on the bank of the Warrah, which river is of a considerable size even here. The cattle are not so numerous as they are to the north-east, but of a much finer breed, the cows being much larger and better shaped; my not seeing so many was owing I think to the unsettled state of the weather, and their having most likely

taken shelter in the deep valleys.

On the 24th, my time being limited to one more day only, I returned to White Rock (where I left the "Foam" undergoing repairs) by a different track, more to the northward, skirting the Mount Edgeworth range and following the river till it joins the sea, thence round Port Purvis; in the neighbor of the sea, the sea of the sea, the sea of th bourhood there appears to be a great number of cattle, about 2,000; but I do not think they cross the Mount Edgeworth range of hills into the country about Byron Sound, and from what I can hear they have not as yet reached beyond Hill Gap. Therefore from what I have seen and heard I should estimate the total number of wild animals on the West Falklands to be about 5,000.

I have, &c. (Signed) ARTHUR BAILEY. Surveyor-General.

His Excellency Governor Robinson, Commander-in-Chief, Str.

REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

For the Year 1866.

PART III. EASTERN COLONIES.

Presented to both Mouses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty.

April 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

SCHEDULE.

PART III.

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CEYLON.

CEYLON.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Hercules G. R. Robinson, to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 210.)

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
My Lord Duke,
September 14, 1867.
I have the honour to forward the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1866.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue of last year, as shown by these returns, is apparently less than that of 1865 by 15,619l., the revenue of 1866 being 962,873l., whilst that of the preceding year amounted to 978,492l. But this decrease is more than accounted for by the transfer last year from general revenue to the newly established municipalities of Colombo and Kandy of taxes to the amount of about 21,000l. If these receipts had been retained, the revenue of last year would have exceeded that of 1865 by about 5,000l., and again have been the largest ever raised in the Island. And notwithstanding the withdrawal of these items from the general account it will be seen that the revenue of last year exceeded that of 1864 by 95,145l., and that of 1863 by 10,083l., although in the last-

mentioned year there was a pearl fishery which yielded the sum of 51,017l.

3. The comparative statement of the revenue for the years 1865 and 1866, which will be found at pages 52 and 53 of the Blue Book, shows a falling off in 1866 under the following heads. In the Customs the decrease on imports amounts to 18,693*l.*, and was owing to the great scarcity of grain which prevailed in the producing districts in India, causing a considerable diminution in the importation of that article. Under the head of land sales the decrease amounts to 6,382*l.* on waste lands, and 1,831*l.* on cinnamon gardens—the effect of the depressed state of the money market in Europe. In the item of toll rents, the decrease, amounting to 16,232*l.*, is mainly owing to the transfer of the tolls within the gravets of Colombo and Kandy to the municipalities of those towns. The same reason, viz., the transfer to the municipalities of the receipts from licences for carriers and carriages, and of the assessment tax for the maintenance of the police, caused a reduction of 2,424*l.* under the head of licences, and of 3,727*t.* under the head of taxes. There is a decrease of 1,044*l.* in the item of Government vessels, there having been no receipts in 1866 under this head, owing to the sale of the colonial steamer "Pearl."

4. On the other hand, an increase in the receipts of 1866 over those of 1865 is shown in the same return under several heads. The scarcity of rice last year raised the value of paddy grown in the island, enhancing the price of that article, and causing an increase in that item of 5,727l. Under the head of licences there is an increase of 11,115l. in the item of arrack, rum, and toddy, owing to the higher prices realized by the sale of arrack rents generally, and an apparent increase of 4,044l. in the retail of salt in the Northern Province, the difference arising from the circumstance of the rent of 1865 having been collected in aumany; that is, the retail of the article being conducted by Government officers, instead of through the renters, in consequence of which the sums realized by the sale of salt, were brought to credit under another head, that of "sale of Government property." There is an increase of 3,862l. in the item of electric telegraph, the result of the more extensive use of the telegraph. Under the head of miscellaneous there is an increase of 2,315l., being the premium on the insurance of the steamer "Pearl," which was brought to account as revenue last year on the sale of that vessel.

5. The total ordinary expenditure of the year amounted to 917,669l. The excess of revenue over expenditure was therefore 45,204l. In addition to the above sum of 917,669l, there was a further expenditure of 40,323l, in 1866 for public works, which was charged against the balances of former years.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

CEYLON.

4

6. As compared with the expenditure of the preceding year, that of 1866, shows an increase of 79,476l. Under the head of establishments there is an increase of 14,861l., caused chiefly by the increase of the staff of the Civil Engineer's and Surveyor General's Departments, and by the reorganization of the police. The heavy works undertaken in 1866 caused an increase of 33,138l. under the head of roads, streets, and bridges. The head miscellaneous shows an increase of 12,234l., caused chiefly by the large expenditure incurred in the survey of temple lands.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. The statement of assets and liabilities furnished by the Auditor General shows that at the commencement of the current year (1867) the assets of the colony amounted to 565,780l., and the liabilities to 400,513l., leaving an excess of assets over liabilities of 165,267l. Amongst the assets, however, appears a sum of 78,500l. as revenue outstanding on 31st December 1866, of which only 46,500l. is considered to be recoverable. If from the assets be deducted the whole of the revenue, surcharges, and advances outstanding at the close of the last year, amounting in the aggregate to 82,329l., the result will agree with the statement which accompanied my Despatch No. 83. of 14th April last, by which it was shown that the net available unappropriated cash balance of the colony at the commencement of the current year was 82,939l.

8. Appended to the Auditor's statement is a memorandum of railway liabilities amounting to 671,829l. on account of debentures sold in England, and interest due thereon. As provision has been made to meet these charges from special funds, they are not

included in the ordinary statement of liabilities.

Military Expenditure.

9. The total expenditure incurred by the Colony in 1866 on account of its military defence was 136,520*l*., in which is included the colonial contribution of 100,000*l*. The amount of imperial expenditure incurred in Ceylon was 95,990*l*., being less by 4,010*l*. than the colonial contribution.

Imports and Exports.

10. The Customs returns show that there was an increase of 218,673l. in the value of goods imported in 1866, as compared with 1865, and an increase of 1,092l. on the exports, the value being

			Im	ports.			
1865		-	-	41.		-	£3,298,511
1866	-	-		- 6			3,517,184
			Ex	ports.			
1865						-	£3,069,155
1866					-	-	3,070,247

11. These figures do not include the specie imported and exported. Adding these, the total value of the imports and exports of 1866, as compared with those of the preceding year, stands thus:—

			Impo	rts.			
1865		The state of					£5,022,179
1866	•				•		4,961,061
			Expo	rts.			
1865			w .				£3,565,157
1866						*	3,586,453

12. The total value of goods, exclusive of specie, imported and retained in the Colony during 1866, amounted to 3,140,767l., viz.:—

Imports, exclusive of specie	-		-	£3,517,184
Deduct imports exported	-	-	-	376,417
Goods retained				£3,140,767

13. The total value of specie imported and retained in the Island during 1866 CHYLON.

amounted to 927,6711., viz.:—

Specie imported - - - £1,443,877

Do. exported - - 516,206

 Specie imported
 £1,443,877

 Do. exported
 516,206

 Specie retained
 £927,671

14. The total value, therefore, of goods and specie imported and retained in the Island during 1866 amounted to 4,068,438l., as follows:—

Goods retained - - - £3,140,767 Specie do. - - - - £3,140,767 927,671 Goods and specie retained - £4,068,438

15. The total value of Ceylon produce exported in 1866, as given in the Blue Book, amounts to 2,693,830l., viz.:—

Exports, exclusive of specie
Deduct imports exported

Ceylon produce

- £3,070,247
- 376,417
- £2,693,830

16. But this is merely the supposed valuation of the exports as taken in the Island for official purposes, and is little more than the cost of production. It is therefore calculated to mislead, as it must be apparent that the Colony could not steadily year after year, as it is made to appear to do in the Blue Book returns, import and retain goods and specie so far in excess of the value of the Island produce exported. I have, therefore, caused a calculation to be made of the probable value realised in the markets to which they were consigned, by the articles of Ceylon produce and manufacture exported during 1866, by which the amount is estimated at over 4,220,000l. If this calculation be adopted, it will be seen that the gross value of the imports and exports of last year amounted to 10,073,684l., as follows:—

Goods imported £3,517,184 Specie do. -1,443,877 -4,961,061 Island produce exported 4,220,000 Imports do. 376,417 Specie do. 516,206 -5,112,623 Gross imports and exports £10,073,684

And that the goods and specie imported and retained, added to the value of the Island produce exported, amounted to 8,288,438l., as follows:—

Goods and specie imported and retained
Island produce exported
- £4,068,438
- 4,220,000
- £8,288,438

17. An examination of the details of the returns will show that in imports there was a considerable decrease on rice, the importation of which from British India in 1866 was bushels 3,777,320, against bushels 4,851,413 in 1865. The great falling off in the importations took place in the months of May and June 1866, when the quantity imported averaged only 60,000 bushels a month, whereas the usual average was about 300,000 bushels. The falling-off continued for some months afterwards, and the stock of rice in the market at one time was so low that considerable apprehensions of a famine were entertained by the public, and some slight disturbances occurred in a few of the principal towns, owing to the scarcity of the article and the high price demanded for it. Order was, however, soon restored, by the measures taken by the Government. To avoid entering into competition in the local market with private purchasers, the Government procured a large quantity of rice from Bombay for the use of the troops, the pioneers, the gaols, and hospitals. Active measures were also taken by the mercantile

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community, who obtained considerable supplies of rice from different quarters, so that there was an adequate stock of the grain in the market towards the end of the year.

18. There was an increase in the imports from the United Kingdom in the following

items:-

£329,140 On cotton goods " twist 74,310 " spirits and cordials 18,049 " arms and ammunition 7,934

19. There was also an increase on imports from Mauritius, chiefly on specie, to the

amount of 9,287l.

From Australia, on specie, 191,568l. From French India, on rice, 11,998l.

20. The decrease in the importation of specie from British India was 451,870l., and

there was also a decrease on specie from Suez of 28,534l.

21. The decrease in the value of the trade to the United Kingdom and France is accounted for mainly by the shipments of coffee being cwts. 57,592 and cwts. 12,800 respectively less than in 1865. The value of the trade to British India shows also a decrease of about 40,000l., chiefly on the item of rice, as a considerable quantity was sent back there in 1865.

22. The trade to Mauritius, Suez, Gibraltar, French India, Australia, and the United States of America manifests a steady progress, particularly to the last-mentioned country, the value of exports to these countries (chiefly coffee) exceeding by nearly 128,070l.

that of the previous year.

23. The value of specie exported to British India in 1866 shows also an increase of

20,204l. as compared with 1865.

24. The revenue derived from imports and exports in 1866 was 274,220l. 19s. 2d., showing a decrease of 16,870l. 7s. 0d. as compared with that of the preceding year,

which amounted to 291,091l. 6s. 2d.

25. The apparent anomaly of an increase in the value of imports and exports in 1866, while there was a decrease in the revenue collected, may be accounted for by the large stock of goods imported in 1866, principally "cotton manufactures, wines and spirits," remaining in bond at the close of the year. The value of these appears in the return, but the duty on them remains to be collected when the goods are cleared for consumption.

26. I append to this Despatch a return of Exports of coffee, cinnamon, cocoanut,

oil, and coir, for the last ten years;

Return of the total value of Imports and Exports (including specie and bullion) in the

years 1864, 1865, and 1866; and

A statement of the number and tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared in the same years.

Public Works.

27. I forward the following documents required by Her Majesty's Government, in addition to the Return of Public Works included among the Blue Book Returns.

Estimated Expenditure out of Surplus Funds for 1867.

Analytical Statement of Progress of Public Works borne on the Budget of 1866.

Progress of Expenditure on Surplus Fund Ordinances from 1857 to 1866, and the

Estimated Expenditure for 1867.

Profit and Loss on Works undertaken as remunerative from 1857 to 1867.

28. I inclose also a copy of a Report by the Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads on the Progress and Expenditure on Roads, and Receipts from Tolls for the year 1866.

29. From the abstract attached to the Blue Book Return furnished by the Civil Engineer it will be seen that the total expenditure on public works during the past year amounted to 280,098l. 1s. $4\frac{1}{2}d.$, viz.:-

£218,342 Government money Commutation money paid in assessment for labour under the Road Ordinance, and private 31,272 contributions 30,483 Cost of establishment

£ 280,097

30. As compared with 1865, the expenditure of 1866 shows an excess of 49,3 871. that for 1865 being only 230,710l.

Encl. No. 1.

Encl. No. 2.

Encl. No. 3.

Encl. No. 4. not printed. Encl. No. 5. not printed. Encl. No. 6. not printed. Encl. No. 7. Encl. No. 8.

Extract.

31. The amount expended on opening new roads was 38,814l., viz., 28,178l. Govern-CEYLON. ment money; 10,636l. private contributions.

32. The following were some of the principal roads in course of construction last

Western Province.

From Haldumulle to Haputal	e Pass -	-		£5,675
From the railway station at	Marandahn	to	the	
sea-shore road, Kortebon			-	3,207

Central Province.	
From Rajawelle Gap to Teldenia Bridge Opening the seventh, eighth, and ninth miles from Dimbula Gap to Nana Oya:—	4,625
Government money - £2,589	
Private contribution 2,591	
	5,180
From Katugastotte Bridge to the	
Kurwnegala road	4,506
Extension of the Dotelle road:	
Government money 99	
Private contribution 1,901	
	2,000
From Kallubokke to Cabragella:—	
Government money 2,174	
Private contribution 559	
	2,733

33. The amount expended on the repair and upkeep of roads, streets, and canals was 149,987l., viz.:-

Government money £130,681 Road Ordinance funds 19,306

34. The cost of the repair of the road from Colombo to Galle, Matara, Tangala, and Hambantota was 10,693l., the receipts from tolls being 8,465l. The expenditure on the road from Colombo to Kandy was 23,401l., and the receipts from tolls amounted to 27,634l. The lower portion of thirty-six miles from Colombo to the railway station at Ambepusse is no longer a first-class road; and on the opening of the line throughout to Kandy for general traffic it is hoped that the whole of the traffic will be transferred from this road to the railway, which will of course reduce the expenditure on the road, whilst, on the other hand, there will of necessity be a considerable diminution in the receipt from tolls.

35. A sum of 22,219l. was expended on the road from Kandy to Badulla through Nuwara-Eliya; and the road is reported by the Civil Engineer to be in the best possible condition. The receipts from tolls on this road in 1866 amounted only to 4,008l.

36. The sum expended for new bridges was 14,824l., viz. :-

Government money £14,510 Private contributions

37. The following were some of the principal bridges in course of construction last year:-

Western Province.

An iron bridge over the Kurugange near Ratnapura £3,991 An iron lattice bridge over the Weyganga at Kahawatte on the road to Rakwana -5,156

Central Province.

An iron lattice girder bridge over the Badulla Oya

38. On the repair of bridges an expenditure of 2,350l. was incurred.

39. The expenditure on new buildings amounted to 7,001%. The following were some of the most important of the buildings in progress last year:-

Western Province.

Extending the Customs accommodation at Colombo - £625 Do. of the Lunatic Asylum at Borella - 3,438

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Eastern Province.

Quarters at Foul Point for lightkeepers and boatmen - £893

40. The amount expended on the repair of existing buildings was 7,4911., and on

drainage, construction of ferry boats, and general service, 2,105%.

41. On miscellaneous services, including the purchase of tools, working of the factory, the purchase of draught cattle, subsistence of elephants, the importation of pioneers and labourers from the continent of India, there was an expenditure of 25,924l. In this amount are also included a sum of 3,999l. for building retaining walls on the banks of the Kalutara Canal, and a sum of 715l. for blowing up and removing stones in the Galle Harbour.

Government Houses at Colombo, Galle, and Kandy.

Encl. No. 9.

Encl. No. 10. not printed. 42. I enclose Reports of the Civil Engineer on the state of these buildings. On the completion of certain repairs now in progress, the Queen's House at Colombo may be said to be in fair order. The Queen's House at Galle is in a good state of repair generally. The Pavilion at Kandy requires a few slight repairs, which will be effected, and the building will then be in good order. I enclose also the Report of the Deputy Commissary General on the condition of the public furniture in these houses. A board of survey has been appointed to report on the furniture in the Pavilion at Kandy, which is stated by the Deputy Commissiary General to be very old, and altogether unsuited for the purpose.

Surveying Department.

Encl. No. 11. not printed. 43. The enclosed Report from the Surveyor General shows a very satisfactory result of the working of his department during the past year.

44. The depressed state of the money market in Europe had a material effect on land sales, especially as respects the purchases made by Europeans; but, notwithstanding

this, the receipts of last year contrast favourably with those of previous years.

45. The total number of lots alienated from the Crown in 1866 was 8,230, containing in extent 26,306 acres, and the sum realized was 62,670*l*., exclusive of fees, which amounted to 9,352*l*. Although the total extent of land disposed of is 14,849 acres less than in 1865, the gross amount realized is greater by 3,745*l*., the average rate per acre, 2*l*. 10s., being much in excess of the rate of the preceding year.

46. In the Western Province, 5,749 lots, comprising 9,448 acres, were disposed of for 24,005l., or at the rate of 2l. 10s. 7d. per acre. The demand for land in this Province appears to be on the increase, and greater attention has been paid to the survey of paddy lands, the natives having, since the late scarcity of rice, evinced a desire to purchase lands suitable for paddy cultivation.

47. In the Central Province 371 lots were sold, containing 8,003 acres, for 13,429l., or

at an average of 1l. 13s. 7d. an acre.

It was in this Province, especially, in which the purchases were chiefly made by Europeans, that the depressed state of the money market affected the land sales.

48. In the Southern Province, 1,060 lots, comprising 4,214 acres, were disposed of for 14,953l., or at an average of 3l. 10s. 11½d. per acre. The greater portion of the money realized last year by land sales in this Province was obtained by the disposal of paddy lands.

49. The following are the results of the sales in the other Provinces:

-	Lots.	Extent.	Amount realized.	Rate per Acre.		
		Acres.		£ s. d.		
North-western Province	- 172	1,068	4,081	3 16 5		
Eastern do.	768	3,418	5,934	1 14 8		
Northern do.	110	156		1 14 5		

50. Satisfactory progress has also been made in the survey of temple lands, the extent surveyed during the year being 90,174 acres.

51. In addition to the survey of lands for sale, the Surveyor-General's Department was engaged in other work, such as tracing of roads, preparation of plans, &c., which entailed considerable trouble and cost.

Electric Telegraph.

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52. I enclose the Report of the Superintendent of Telegraphs on the working of the Encl. No. 12. lines and offices of the telegraph department for the year 1866.

53. The department has not been in a very satisfactory state, as remarked by me in a previous Report, owing to the absence from illness, and the frequent changes of the officer at its head, and to the insufficiency of the staff. Certain suggestions made by Mr. Cappel, the late, and Mr. St. Albin, the present Superintendent, for the reorganization of the departments, have been approved by the Government, and it is hoped that they will have the effect of placing the establishment on a more efficient footing.

54. Serious defalcations in the department, amounting to upwards of 2,000l., were discovered during last year. In one case the late head clerk and a storekeeper were tried and found guilty. Other parties, however, who were also under suspicion, have not as yet

been brought to trial, for want of sufficient proof against them.

55. Most of the telegraph lines were reported by the Superintendent to be in an imperfect state; and a sum of 3,200l. has been voted in the Supply Bill for the present

year to place them in efficient order.

56. The financial results of the department are, however, satisfactory. The total receipts, including those of the Indo-European and the Indian lines, as well as those of Ceylon, were 23,598l. Of this, the sum of 8,850l. is due to this Government. The Ceylon receipts for 1865 amounted to 8,099l. There was, therefore, an increase of 751l. in the receipts of 1866, as compared with those of the preceding year. The total expenditure of the department, including repairs of lines, amounted last year to 6,660l. The receipts, therefore, show an increase over expenditure of 2,1901.

Railway.

57. I enclose Reports from the Director General of the Ceylon Railway for the half Encl. No. 13.

years ending 30th June and 31st December 1866.

not printed.

- 58. Notwithstanding the difficulties caused by the unhealthiness of the district on the banks of the Maha Oya, the work was carried on with energy by the contractor; and the portion of the lines between Ambepusse and Polgahawella was opened on the 1st November 1866, making a total length of 46 miles opened at that date for general
- 59. On the 1st of August of this year the line was so far completed as to admit of its being opened for passenger traffic to Kandy, and it is hoped that by the middle of this month it will be opened also for goods traffic.

60. The expenditure incurred on the works during the year was 195,9521., viz.,

155,756l. in Ceylon, and 40,196l. for materials from England.

61. The total value of work done to the 31st December 1866, was 808,931*l*., leaving a balance of 64,108*l*. to be expended in this year for the completion of the work under

62. The number of passengers carried during the year 1866 was 124,096.
63. The tonnage of goods carried over the portion of the line open was 12,790.
64. The receipts from passengers and goods traffic amounted to 23,262l.
65. The working expenses amounted to 26,295l., showing a loss in working of 3,033l.; but deducting from this a sum of 747l., being amount of miscellaneous receipts, the actual loss to revenue was 2,286l.

Legislation.

66. Twenty seven Ordinances were enacted in the session of 1866, of which five were passed during the first few days of the present year, it not having been practicable to close the session last year.

Ordinance No. 1. provides for the naturalization of Naylor Dunbar Schultze.

No. 2. provides for the apprehension of pioneer deserters, and for the better protection of Government property entrusted to the charge of pioneers. This Ordinance re-enacted the provisions of the Ordinance No. 23. of 1865, which was disallowed by Her Majesty, without the provision which subjected an offending pioneer to corporal punishment, and which was objected to by the Secretary of State.

No. 3. is an Ordinance enlarging the operation of the Ordinance No. 10. of 1844, which amended the law relative to the distillation of arrack, rum, and toddy. By this latter Ordinance certain restrictions were placed on the distillation of spirits, and regulations were laid down as to the construction of the stores and the dimensions of the stills. Certain

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districts in which distillation had been previously carried on in stills of a smaller size were however excluded from the operation of these provisions. Ordinance No. 3. of 1866 empowers the Governor by Proclamation to introduce these provisions into the districts referred to.

No. 4. enlarges the power of the Surveyor-General to demand the production of deeds, and make surveys of lands, and to facilitate the proof of surveys. Although the Surveyor-General had authority to call for deeds whenever they might be required by him for the purposes of any survey to be made to enable the Crown to take possession of private lands for public uses, there was no law in force giving that officer power to demand the production of deeds for the purpose of determining encroachments, and surveyors have in consequence been molested when engaged in this work. This Ordinance was passed to remedy this defect.

No. 5., to facilitate the recovery of monies due as commutation of the paddy tax and of the performance of labour, provides for the recovery of these claims in the same way that the assessment tax is recovered by the Government agent, or, where there is a municipality, by the municipal council, viz., by distraining, the modes of recovery formerly in force having been found to be troublesome, and to give rise to delay.

No. 6., to compel the registration of old deeds and other instruments of title, was enacted with a view to check the frauds practised by parties in consequence of the absence of adequate provision for the registration of deeds. The provisions of the Ordinances No. 20. of 1824, 7. of 1834, and 7. of 1840, which last came into operation on the 1st February 1840, furnished a check against the production of false deeds; but as this check did not practically exist with reference to deeds executed before 1840, this Ordinance provides for the registration of such deeds.

No. 7., entitled "An Ordinance relating to the Police Force," makes certain formal amendments in Ordinance No. 16. of 1865, suggested by the Secretary of

State.

No. 8. provides against the spread of contagious diseases in the Island. It authorizes the Governor, with the advice of his Executive Council, to make rules applicable to cases of anticipated emergency, and to apply those rules to epidemic diseases, whether in man or beast.

Ordinances Nos. 9., 16., and 18. authorize the establishment of tolls on certain roads.

No. 10. authorizes the additional expenditure of 185,000% for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy, and substitutes the 1st January 1868 for the 1st January 1867 as the date at which the construction fund should cease, and the sinking fund commence.

No. 11. empowers the trustees and managers of the Ceylon Savings Bank to grant a

pension to Mr. Jacob Piachaud, for his services as actuary of that institution.

Ordinance No. 13., to provide for the construction, up-keep, and repair of branch roads, consolidates the different laws on this subject. It provides also, in cases of an absent proprietor who had no agent, or whose agent was unknown, that notice affixed on the land, and published in the "Government Gazette," shall be deemed notice to the proprietor. As it was found that the provision in the former Ordinances, under which the construction of a new road could not be commenced until the whole of the private contributions had been paid into the treasury, was inapplicable to the repairs of grant-in-aid roads, and as it was also considered unreasonable to call upon proprietors to pay more than what was actually required at a time, it has been left discretionery with the Governor to require the payment by the proprietors of their entire share either in one sum or by instalments.

Ordinance No. 14., relating to Kandyan marriages, requires parties, on registering their marriages under the provisions of the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance of 1859, to state whether the marriage is in Beena or Deega. The former takes place under the old Kandyan law still in force, when the husband goes and lives with his wife on her paternal property, and becomes entitled to her inheritance; the latter, when the wife leaves her parents' house, and lives with her husband, by doing which she forfeits the right to her parental inheritance, excepting in the case of her becoming destitute, when she is entitled to claim maintenance therefrom. The absence of written evidence on this point gave rise to frauds and perjuries, with a view to check which this Ordinance was enacted.

Ordinance No. 15., relating to arbitrations and awards, invests local tribunals with the power of referring questions of accounts of a complicated nature to arbitration, and it enables parties to a reference, by deed or instrument in writing, to cause such reference,

and the award thereon, to be made a rule of court, without resorting to an action

based upon the deed.

No. 17. authorizes the destruction of old and useless processes and documents. The accumulation of these documents in the courts of justice was found to be productive of great inconvenience; and as it is not necessary to retain those specified in the Ordinance after certain periods, the Governor is empowered to appoint parties to destroy them; provision being, however, made for the preservation of any documents which may be considered to be of importance.

Ordinance No. 19. was passed with a view to prevent the wholesale and wanton destruction of fish caused by the use of a peculiar kind of nets introduced by the natives of

India and others.

No. 20., amending Ordinance No. 18, of 1844, entitled "An Ordinance for the better Regulation of Prisons," empowers the Governor to make rules from time to time on the

subject of prison discipline.

No. 21., relating to the law of partnership, is taken from the English Act, 28 and 29 Vic. cap. 86., by which a person advancing money to another engaged in any trade or undertaking for a share of the profits is declared not to be thereby made a partner; a principle which is further extended to the case of remuneration of agents, and to the case of annuitants. There is this difference, however, between the English Act and the Ceylon Ordinance, that whereas by the former the claim of the person lending is post-poned until the claims of other creditors are satisfied, this result by the Ordinance takes place only in respect to profits or interest, the lender being entitled to claim, in concurrence with the other creditors, as respects the principal.

Ordinance No. 22., with a view to assimilating as far as possible the laws of this Island with those of the mother country, extends the introduction into this Colony of the law of England to questions relating to partnerships, joint stock companies, corporations, banks, and banking principals and agents, carriers by land, and life and fire insurance. A previous Ordinance, No. 5. of 1852, introduced here the law of England in maritime matters, and in questions arising out of bills of exchange, promissory notes

and cheques.

Ordinance No. 12. makes provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1866; and No. 1. of 1867 provides for the contingent service of the current year.

No. 2. of 1867 authorizes the application of 170,000l. of the surplus revenues of past years to works and services of acknowledged public utility; and No. 3. authorizes the appropriation of certain unclaimed balances from the Loan Board for the execution of

certain works and services connected with the administration of justice.

Ordnance No. 4. amends and consolidates the law relating to fiscals and their officers. It was introduced in consequence of the unsatisfactory working of the fiscals department, especially the service of processes, a work which had before been performed by a staff of men on the establishment of the several fiscals, who were paid by the Government, but whose salaries will now be defrayed from the fees recovered from suitors. The Ordinance provides that fiscals and their deputies shall give security for the due and faithful execution of their office; and it empowers the Governor to make any portion of the security given by the fiscal available for the payment of any sum which the fiscal may be condemned to pay to any party who may recover damages against him. Like power is also given to the fiscal in respect to the security taken from the deputy Whenever satisfactory arrangements for the purpose can be made, fiscals are empowered to divide their districts into divisions, and appoint marshals for each division, to whom will be entrusted the service and execution of processes within their respective divisions. Marshals are also required to give security. The second division of the Ordinance provides for the fees and charges payable by suitors for the execution of processes. The other portions give detailed regulations touching the duties and liabilities of fiscals, the execution of processes, the seizure and sale of property, the mode of disposing of claims to property seized in execution, and the delivery of possession to purchasers.

The object of Ordinance No. 5, relating to the assessment of lands for the maintenance of the police force, is to give a right of appeal against the assessment of properties which may be made under the Municipal Councils Ordinance, if parties are

dissatisfied with such assessment.

Population.

67. The total population of all classes of inhabitants for 1866 is stated in the returns to be 2,039,330, showing an excess of 31,338 over the number given in the returns for 1865, viz. 2,007,992.

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68. The following are stated to be the numbers of births, marriages, and deaths, viz.:-

Births 48,223 Marriages 18,921 Deaths 39,125

Public Health.

Encl. No. 14. not printed.

69. I enclose the Report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer on the state of health in the several hospitals and jails in the Island.

70. Dr. Charsley remarks that the health of the public generally was at a low standard throughout the year, and that cholera prevailed, more or less, in every Province of the Island.

71. Towards the close of 1866, this disease broke out with violence in the Northern Province in an epidemic form, and the mortality from it was so great that I considered it desirable to appoint a commission to visit the place, and report upon the origin and progress of the disease. The report of the commission has been received, and is now under the consideration of the Government.

72. The total number of cases of cholera which occurred in the whole Island was 10,541, and of deaths 5,926. This shows a large increase as, compared with the number of cases reported in 1865, which was 2,727, the number of deaths being only 1,585. In the Northern Province alone the number of cases in 1866 was 9,092, and of deaths 4,988. Of these 7,918 cases occurred in the peninsula of Jaffna, where the number of deaths was 4,246.

73. The following are the numbers in the other Provinces:—

Western Province	е			Cases. 225	Deaths.
North-western	do.	-	-	274	194
Southern	do.		-	114	63
Eastern	do.		-	51	20
Central	do.	-	-	785	510

In small-pox too there was an increase in 1866 over the cases reported in the previous years, the numbers being,-

1866 1,035 cases 101 deaths 373 do. 55

75. The larger number of cases were in Colombo, where there is a small-pox hospital, in which 813 cases occurred, whilst throughout the rest of the Island only 222 cases were reported. It will be observed, however, that the rate of mortality from this disease was not so great in 1866 as in the preceding year, being 9 per cent. in the former, and 14 per cent. in the latter.

76. The efficacy of vaccination in diminishing the fatal results of this disease is proved by the fact that not one death occurred amongst those who bore satisfactory marks of vaccination, and that there were only four deaths among those who bore unsatis-

factory marks.

77. The results, however, as to the numbers vaccinated exhibited in the returns are not very favourable, the number in 1866 being 65,496 against 68,289 in 1865, showing a decrease of 2,793, and the successful cases were 47,686 in 1866 and 49,838 in 1865. This decrease is ascribable, in the opinion of the Principal Civil Medical Officer, chiefly to the prevalence of cholera in the Northern Province, and of fever, aggravated by the scarcity of food in some of the other Provinces.

Education.

78. The returns of schools for the year 1866 show that there were 115 public schools in which there were 5,984 pupils. This exhibits, as compared with the previous year, an increase of four schools, and of 603 in the number of pupils, with a proportionate increase of 455 in the average daily attendance.

79. The number of aided schools in 1866 was the same as in the previous year, viz., 17; but there was a decrease of 157 in the number of pupils on the rolls, and of 172 in

the average daily attendance.

80. As the greater number of these schools are situated in the Jaffua peninsula, this decrease in the number of scholars is susceptible of explanation by the fact that during the latter part of last year the outbreak of the epidemic, which proved fatal to so many thousands, interfered very materially with the attendance of pupils at the different aided schools.

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- 81. The expenditure by the Government on account of education amounted to 14,875l. in 1866, showing an increase of 202l. as compared with the expenditure of 1865, which amounted to 14,673. This may be attributed to the increase in the number of schools.
- 82. The receipts in the shape of fees and sale of stationery show an increase of 176l. The former amounted to 2,138l., being an increase, as compared with the receipts from this source in 1865, of 158l., and the latter amounted to 77l., being also an increase of 18l., as compared with the receipts under the same head for 1865. The increase in the fees may be traced to a larger attendance in the schools paying the higher fees.
- 83. The returns from the different missionary bodies show that there has been a decrease both in the number of schools supported by them and in the number of pupils attending them. The following is an abstract of these schools:

				1	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
		~ .				
Society for the Propagation	of the	Gospel		-	44	1,528
Church Missionary Society			1,70	-	32	1,232
Wesleyan do.		-		-	105	3,767
Presbyterians -	-		- 050	-	1	18
Baptist Missionary Society	1		-	-	17	416
American do.				-	68	2,661
Roman Catholic do.	-				90	4,452
					357	14,074

- 84. The numbers in 1865 were 419 schools and 14,746 pupils.
- 85. The number of private schools in 1866 was 210, with an attendance of 4,449. This shows a decrease, as compared with 1865, of 42 schools and 1,527 pupils.
- 86. I enclose a printed copy of the Twenty-third Report of the School Commission, Encl. No. 15. for the period from the 1st July 1865 to the 30th June 1866, which was laid before Council last session, and which gives a full account of the Government schools up to the middle of last year.

- 87. I regret to add that a very general impression appears to prevail here amongst thoughtful persons that the efforts of the Government in this direction are in a great measure misdirected, and that the Colony does not derive as much benefit as it might do from the large sum of public money which is annually expended for educational purposes. Mr. Sendall, the able Inspector of Schools, attributes the present inefficient condition of the Government schools to the want of proper training for the teachers; and, in an interesting letter which is attached to the Commissioners' report, and which will well repay perusal, after detailing the unsatisfactory result of his fourth annual examination, he concludes with the following graphic description of the effects upon the Ceylonese youth of the present system of English education, as conducted in the Government schools: "And for this state of things, when once it has been produced, there is "then no further remedy. With the old language half forgotten, the new language not "nearly half acquired, the time for acquisition now past, unable to apply his native tongue to the development of what precise knowledge he has learnt through the medium of those rags of English to which he yet tenaciously clings,—what is left to the unhappy victim, here of fatal half measures, there of misdirected zeal and mistaken " philanthrophy, but to lapse into that conceited, magniloquent, hypocritical, cringing, " petitioning, honest-work-despising animal, with the like of whom it is not too much to " say our English schools, in their present condition, have of late years flooded the " country."
- 88. This, if true, and no one has had a better opportunity of judging than Mr. Sendall, is anything but a gratifying return for a large outlay, and the importance of the question can scarcely be over-rated. I am glad, therefore, to be enabled to state that the whole system of public education has for the last two years been under the careful scrutiny of a committee of the Legislative Council, and that the report may be looked for within a few weeks, so that I trust the approaching session will not be allowed to pass without a careful and comprehensive consideration of the whole subject.

CEYLON.

General Remarks.

89. Prefixed to the Blue Book Returns will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of this Colony for the years 1821 to 1866 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1865 and 1866, prepared in the form suggested by the International Statistical Congress at the meeting held in London in 1860. A glance at this return will serve to show the steady improvement of Ceylon for a number of years under almost every head, and that the present prosperity is established upon a solid basis may, I think, be inferred from the manner in which the Colony was enabled to withstand the succession of adverse circumstances by which it was last year assailed. A war in Europe, and a financial crisis of almost unprecedented severity in England and India, caused for a time a considerable depression in the price of coffee, whilst a falling-off in the usual importations of rice, in consequence of the famine in India, enhanced considerably the price of that article in the local market. Notwithstanding these severe tests, there has been no reduction in the revenue, trade has not diminished, and coffee cultivation, the main branch of agricultural enterprise, is being carried on with unabated activity. One great and lasting good too has, I think, resulted from the trials through which the planters have lately passed. The high price of coffee, and the facility of obtaining advances at home under the conditions of an easy money market, had led by degrees to reckless expenditure in the management of estates, which, if it had continued unchecked, must before long have proved fatal to coffee cultivation. The events of last year forced this question upon the consideration of producers, and the necessity for a stricter attention to estate expenditure has been very generally acknowledged and acted on. Now what the Colony is most suffering from is the distrust with which Ceylon estate securities and coffee enterprise generally are viewed at home, and which, considering the extent to which the staple agriculture of the Island is dependent upon home capital, is the cause of considerable embarrassment. This state of things is, however, merely the natural rebound from the over-confidence shown in the years 1863, 1864, and 1865. The rise in the price of cotton consequent on the American war, the high price of coffee in the London market, and the amount of superabundant capital in England, which readily sought so favourable a locality for investment as Ceylon, all tended to throw, during those years, a large amount of capital into the Island. The result in very many cases was, injudicious investment and indiscriminate advances; and when the unsoundness of these transactions was made apparent by the financial pressure of 1866, and when the difficulty of realizing immediately, even in the case of safe investments, was experienced, all Ceylon securities, good and bad alike, were discredited, and viewed with suspicion and distrust, There are, however, no fair grounds, in my opinion, for the extent to which this reactionary feeling has spread, and it must, I feel assured, before long, be considerably moderated. I believe there never was a time when coffee cultivation was more remunerative than it is at present, if only it be judiciously conducted. The high price of the produce in the home market is being steadily maintained, a stricter economy than formerly is exercised in the management of estates, the local labour market, in consequence of the distress upon the neighbouring coast of India, is unusually well supplied, whilst the opening of the railway to the capital of the coffee districts, and the extension of other means of communication, must, by lessening the expense of transport, materially diminish the cost of production. These encouraging circumstances cannot fail before long to produce their legitimate effect, by allaying the unreasoning spirit of distrust which now prevails so extensively at home as regards every description of coffee enterprise. A gradual return of confidence may, therefore, fairly be anticipated, and with it I hope we may look once more for the attraction towards Ceylon of a portion of that surplus European capital upon which the Island is in a great measure dependent for the successful prosecution and extension of one of the most important branches of its productive industry.

(Signed)

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

I have, &c., HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

CEYLON.

RETURN of Exports of Coffee, Cinnamon, Cocoanut Oil, and Coir, the Produce of the Colony, for the Years 1865 and 1866.

Years.		Coffee.			C	Cinnamon.			Cocoanut Oil.				Coir.		
Years.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	From the foregoing Exports.		
1865			£ 2,343,532		lbs. 850,973		£ 852	Gallons. 1,176,784		£ 2,955	Cwts. 41,378		£ 516	£ 50,696	
1866	-	897,624	2,286,880	44,882	890,484	44,524	890	1,042,853	104,400	2,619	46,687	33,035	594	48,985	

Customs, Colombo, 31st May 1867.

(Signed)

J. Parsons, Acting Principal Collector.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS (including Specie and Bullion) from and to each Country in each of the Years 1864, 1865, and 1866.

				Impor	ts.							Exports.				
Countries.	1864	1.		1868	1865.			1866.			1864.			1866.		
	£	s.	d.	£	8.	d.	£	8.	d.	£ s.	d.	£ s	. d.	£	8	d.
United Kiugdom		1	1	904,255		10	1,390,686		5		3		5 10	2,385,126	-	10
Cape of Good Hope.	348	9	0	103			-			_			9 6	50		C
Mauritius -	31,343	3	6	20,633	10	0	29,921	9	6	923 17	0	21,175 1	6 0	25,735	0	(
Aden	30	0	0			5		18	10				2 0			
British Posses- sions in India.	2,821,092	14	1	3,486,106	16	10	2,746,439	18	1	957,545 10	1	961,013	6 0	920,577	12	
Hong Kong -	8,710			6,064			9,828	5	1	194 7		3,708 1	0 0			
Australia -	629,843	13	5	330,841	8	8	520,340	16	1	52,060 9		37,048 1	7 0			
Fibraltar -	_			-						5,124 18	1	14,649 1	2 0			
France	87	0		512		9	10 11 01			8,161 10	5	47,306	5 11	19,039	16	
Buenos Ayres	2,813			4	-	3	198	6	0	-		_		-		
Suez	135,693		5	85,007		1	74,377		6	9,291 15		1,076 1				
Maldine Islands	41,880		0	31,129	1	6	29,788		1	6,740 13		6,078 1				
French Posses- sions in India.	156,550		8	136,518		8	150,557	11	0	23,076 9	11	12,327	7 5			
United States of America.	8,273			12,803		1	8,860	0	0	28,481 8	7	-		73,675	7	
Iacao -	593	0	-	1,771			- 07-1			_		_		-		
Bolivia -	4,800		-	6,035	5	11	-			-		_		-		
eru	33,515			_			_					_		-	- 6	
Madeira -	1	7	10							_		-		-		
St. Helena -	_			5			_					-		-		
Madagascar -	_			347	17	10				-		-		-		
Muscat -				_			12	0	0	- /- /-		_			, C	
Bourbon - Outch Posses- sions in India.	lifey =			=				0	0	5,341 12	e a	40,347	7 4	600	6]
	5,526,964	3	4	5,022,179	4	9	4,961,061	9	6	3,112,268 15	5 6	3,565,157	1 5	3,586,453	12	

Customs, Colombo, 20th June 1867.

(Signed)

J. Parsons, Acting Principal Collector.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

CEYLON.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered Inwards and cleared Outwards in each of the Years 1864, 1865, and 1866.

			Entered	Inwards		Cleard Outwards.						
	1864.		1865.		1866.		1864.		1865.		1866.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Total	3,137	523,333	3,289	577,022	3,240	583,303	3,260	547,062	3,326	573,818	3,304	599,022

Custom House, Colombo, 5th June 1867.

(Signed)

J. Parsons,

Acting Principal Collector.

Enclosure 4.

Estimated Expenditure out of Surplus Funds for 1867.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 5.

Analytical Statement of Progress of Public Works borne on the Budget of 1866.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 6.

Progress of Expenditure on Surplus Fund Ordinances from 1857 to 1866, and the estimated Expenditure for 1867.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 7 in No. 1.

STATEMENT showing the Profit or Loss on Works undertaken as remunerative.

					Expenditure.	Receipts.	Profit.	Loss.
Electric Telegraph Survey Department Irrigation	•	-	-	:	82,390 241,399 50,932	52,774 64,167 23,861	Ξ	29,616 177,232 27,071
				£	374,721	140,802	-	233,919

Audit Office, Colombo, 25th May 1867.

(Signed)

R. CALLANDER, Auditor General.

Enclosure 8 in No. 1.

Extract from the Report of the Commissioner of Roads, dated 16th April 1867.

"In making this very hurried Report, I am happy in being able to state that I have never seen the roads of the Colony in such high order as they are at present, with large pecuniary means and an abundance of labour. I trust the end of this year will find them as good as could be desired."

CEYLON.

Enclosure 9 in No. 1.

Report on the State of Government House.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 10 in No. 1.

Report on the Condition of the Public Furniture.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 11 in No. 1.

Report of the Surveyor General.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 12 in No. 1.

Report of the Superintendent of Telegraphs

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 13 in No. 1.

Reports on Railways.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 14 in No. 1.

Report of the Principal Medical Officer.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 15 in No. 1.

CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMISSION.

Report.

The Central School Commission have the honour to submit to the Legislative Council their Report

for the past year (July 1, 1865–June 30, 1866).

2. On the 31st December 1865 there were 103 Government schools in operation, which had on their rolls at that date 5,291 pupils, with an average attendance, during the year, of 4,141. This shows a decrease of 5 schools and an increase of 59 pupils as compared with the year 1864.

3. The percentage of scholars who, at the close of the year 1865, had attended the same Government school for periods varying from less than one year to more than five years, is as follows:

education.

Period of at. tendance.

Less than One Year.	One Year and less than Two Years.	Two Years and less than Three Years.	Three Years and less than Four Years.	Four Years and less than Five Years.	Five Years and upwards.
43.26	22.53	13.06	8.67	5.72	6.74

CEYLON. Age of pupils.

4. Percentage of children of the different ages from "under five" to "over fifteen" in the different classes of schools.

SCHOOLS.	Under Five Years.	Between Five and Six Years.	Between Six and Seven Years.	Between Seven and Eight Years.	Between Eight and Nine Years.	Between Nine and Ten Years.	Between Ten and Eleven Years.	Between Eleven and Twelve Years.	Between Twelve and Thirteen Years.	Between Thirteen and Fourteen Years.	Between Fourteen and Fifteen Years.	Over Fifteen Years.
Colombo Academy -	_	•36	1.06	•36	1.06	1.83	6.98	4.04	6.98	9.92	17.64	50.00
Superior Schools	-	_	1.46	1.46	2.43	3.41	6.82	5.85	14.14	12.68	13.17	38.53
English Schools	-	1.07	2.15	5.89	8.24	9.14	15.05	11.11	13.08	10.93	7.88	15.41
Mixed Schools	•90	2.65	3.71	6.67	6.52	8.94	9.47	9.24	10.08	9.62	9.93	22.21
Vernacular Schools -		1.50	6.75	11.53	15.51	15.23	15.51	9.61	10.03	5.72	4.26	4.30
Superior Girls' Schools -	3.03	5.30	6.44	7.57	10.98	15.15	14.77	11.74	8.33	9.47	4.92	2.27
Mixed Girls' Schools -	5.51	8.27	7.93	16.55	15.51	18.96	11.03	6.55	3.10	4.14	1.72	.69
Vernacular Girls' Schools	•40	6.00	12.80	12.00	13.20	16.40	13.20	13.60	4.80	4.00	1.60	2.00
Total	•70	2.40	5.33	8.86	10.92	12.13	12.77	9.37	9.66	7.75	6.86	13.23

Decrease of expenditure in 1865 as com-pared with 1864.

Expenditure, 1861-1865.

5. The expenditure on account of education during the year 1865 amounted to 14,673L 13s. 1d., showing a decrease of 657l. 19s. $2\frac{3}{4}d$. as compared with 1864 when the expenditure was 15,331l. 12s. $3\frac{3}{4}d$.

6. The following table will show the amount voted, and the amount expended, on account of education, during each of the last five years:

	V	nea.		Expended.			
Years.			£	s.	d.	\pounds s. d.	
1861	-	-	16,475	6	8	$14,306 \ 12 \ 2\frac{1}{2}$	
1862	-	-	16,674	6	3	$14,099 7 6\frac{3}{4}$	
1863	- 3	-	15,306	8	0	14,520 3 7	
1864	-	-	16,298	18	3	$15,331 \ 12 \ 3\frac{3}{4}$	
1865		-	17,389	3	9	14,673 13 1	

Estimate for

School fees.

Grants-in-aid.

New Schools.

7. The sum of 17,339l. 2s. 8d. was voted for the current year, and the educational estimate for 1867 amounts to 17,343l. 10s. 8d.

8. The amount realized by school fees in 1865 was 1,7741. 10s. 2d., to which must be added 56l. 3s. $4\frac{1}{8}d$., being receipts on account of stationery, showing a decrease in the receipts from schools in 1865, as compared with 1864, of 308l. 1s. $2\frac{1}{4}d$., and as compared with 1862 of 493l. 0s. $8\frac{1}{4}d$.

9. The amount of grants made to private and other schools during the year 1865 is 803l. Roman Catholic girls' school at Trincomalie has been added to the grant-in-aid schools.

Roman Catholic girls' school at Trincomalie has been added to the grant-in-aid schools.

10. Since the date of the last report, the following schools have been opened:—a mixed school at Ratota; a boys' vernacular school at Kandawala; a boys' vernacular school at Hapugahakanda; a boys' vernacular school at Watugoda; a boys' vernacular school at Godapitiya; and a girls' vernacular school at Gelanigama. The following schools have been re-opened:—the Mátara English school, the Kurunégala girls' school, the Puttelama mixed school, and the Kadugannáwa mixed school. The following schools have been closed: the Dambul mixed school, the Gomagoda mixed school, the Trincomalie girls' mixed school, the Passara vernacular boys' school, the Kandy Jail school, the Katukurunda vernacular girls' school; and the following temporarily closed: the Harispattu mixed school and the Gampola girls' school. school, and the Gampola girls' school.

11. There were no candidates for the Turnour prize in 1865.

Turnour prize. Local examination.

Calcutta Uni-

versity.

Inspection.

Members.

11. There were no candidates for the Turnour prize in 1909.

12. The examiner's report of the fourth local examination, held under the Government notification

of the 26th November 1861, will be found in the Appendix.

13. The result of the last examination at Queen's College and the Colombo Academy in connexion with the University of Calcutta was as follows: of ten students who presented themselves, eight passed in the second division.

14. The Inspector's reports with the accompanying tables give every information as to the state of the central, English, and mixed schools in all the provinces.

15. The Hon. G. Vane, J. A. Martensz, Esq., and the Rev. J. Scott have been appointed as members of the commission, in the room of the Hon. R. T. Pennefather, deceased, C. A. Lorensz, Esq., and the Rev. R. S. Hardy respectively.

16. The thanks of the commission are due to the sub-committees of Kandy, Galle, and other stations, and to several official and private superintendents, for their valuable aid in reference to the schools in which they have respectively interested themselves.

17. Financial and statistical returns, similar to those appended to the last report, will be found in the Appendices.

W. C. GIBSON, President. J. BROOKE H. BAILEY, Secretary.

HONG KONG.

Hong Kong.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 384.)

My Lord Duke, Government House, Hong Kong, October 29, 1867.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1866, and regret that I did not forward it sooner; but great pressure of other business, and the destruction on the 1st instant by a typhoon of a quantity of manuscript papers which I had prepared for the purpose, have compelled me to delay the transmission longer than I had expected. I can now, however, accompany it with full explanations as to the most important points connected with the present position of this Colony, and the incidents affecting it during the period referred to in the enclosed Blue Book.

2. It is impossible, however, that I can forward it without some observations on the transactions and incidents of last year, as they have been specially remarkable in them-

selves, and will no doubt affect considerably the future of the Colony.

3. I would here premise that the circumstances of this Colony are so entirely exceptional and peculiar that it is difficult for the Executive to derive from the experience of other Colonies, or the precedents established by the practice and traditions of Europe, any adequate system for its government and legislation. Separated in some places by scarcely a mile of water from the mainland, and adjoining the provinces where the most unruly and disorderly population of the Chinese Empire reside, addicted along the seaboard for centuries to systematic piracy, and ready, if the least opening presents itself, to land on this Island in quest of booty to be obtained by force or fraud, the handful of Europeans resident here may be regarded as perpetually on the defence. And thus actual preservation of property and life becomes, under such circumstances, a consideration paramount to many interesting questions which, in England, naturally occupy much of public attention in connexion with the reformation of criminals and the education of the people.

4. It is only necessary, in order to comprehend the exceptional position of Hong Kong, to remember that the whole surface of the Island scarcely occupies 18 square miles, consisting chiefly of hills producing a scanty herbage, and that, except a few small gardens and paddy grounds, agriculture is almost unknown. Whilst, nevertheless, the number of passengers visiting and leaving the city of Victoria alone cannot, as I shall presently show, be estimated at less than 600,000 annually, consisting almost entirely of Chinese, a race the most opposite in their habits, thoughts, and religion to Western nations, and also the most confirmed in their ancient prejudices and customs; added to which is the lingering idea of the superiority of their own ancient but worn-

out civilization.

5. The weakness of the Central Chinese Government, and the little control possessed by its officers even over portions of their more immediate districts, is another fertile source of difficulty in the administration of this Government, as the effective aid which might otherwise be looked for in the repression of crime and piracy on the adjoining mainland and its vicinity must not be expected here, though it certainly is withheld from no reluctance, but entirely from a want of power to afford it. A marked improvement even in that respect is now apparent, aided here by repeated remonstrances which I have addressed to the Viceroy of the neighbouring province through Consul Robertson of Canton, who has in all such matters assisted most ably and willingly.

6. I would here desire to guard myself against being supposed, in any of my previous observations, to imply that the Chinese, as a race, are less obedient to law, or less devoted to peaceful and industrial pursuits, than Europeans. The immense number of criminally disposed persons who hover round this place, and against whom the peculiar and special precautions are necessary to which I have alluded, are the refuse of a very large population, numbering 30 millions in the adjoining Quang provinces,

Hong Kong, which, moreover, are fringed along the seaboard in many places with piratical villages inhabited by descendants of a race which, for a long series of centuries, has diversified their ordinary avocations of fishing and tillage with piratical expeditions at certain seasons

7. These people maintain a number of snake boats and other craft adapted for attacking vessels that approach too close to the shore, or get becalmed and anchor incautiously near the haunts of these pirates. The latter, however, also possess vessels heavily armed and adapted for longer cruises, though the large piratical fleets of former days are now no longer assembled, owing to the efficiency and vigilance of Her Majesty's cruisers, and also to the good faith and increased exertions of the Chinese authorities themselves, who have recently exhibited unmistakable proofs of energy and sincerity in their efforts to co-operate with the cruisers.

8. Your Grace will thus perceive that the existence of great numbers of persons trained from their childhood to robbery is quite compatible with that of a far larger population in the same provinces industrious by nature and early training, and generally trustworthy and obedient to the law. Nevertheless, the criminal class in the neighbourhood is sufficiently numerous for a very small percentage of it, if located in this Colony, to work such mischief as to require unusual precautions against their landing or remaining here, and I think that, at last, the appropriate means of effecting this have

been, in a great measure, applied.

- 9. As dealing with those criminal classes here is one of the most serious responsibilities devolving on the local Government, I propose to advert to some of the leading features of the present system; and, speaking now with increased experience, I venture still to refer to my Despatch No. 160, of November last year, as explaining the only true principles on which, apart from questions affecting European prisoners, it is practicable to keep down crime here, and deter persons from visiting Hong Kong for other than lawful purposes. I pointed out in that Despatch that my predecessor, when advocating the construction of a very large new gaol at Stone Cutter's Island, had dwelt on the extraordinary increase of crime here, as evidenced by the augmented number of prisoners in Victoria Gaol, which had risen in four years from 262 in 1858 to 520 in 1862, and I did not hesitate to attribute that increase mainly to the little deterrent influence of imprisonment in a well-kept gaol with wholesome food, good lodging, and light work; so that, with ample materials in our immediate vicinity for filling such buildings, a third gaol would probably ere long have been required in addition to those already existing. Such a result would appear to have been not at all improbable, because, on the 31st of October 1865, the total number in both gaols had again risen from 520 in 1862 to 876. I have no doubt, therefore, that, unless some change in the system of decling with prisoners had been adopted the number new in change in the system of dealing with prisoners had been adopted, the number now in gaol would probably be nearly 1,100, whereas the existing average of criminal prisoners is now below 500.
- 10. This extraordinary and satisfactory change has mainly been brought about by four distinct causes:—First, by the operation of Ordinance No. 12 of 1865, by which flogging was added to the punishment of those who, at the time of commission of any crime, were armed with any offensive weapons, or were guilty of violence against the person. This, however, could not of itself have produced the results now attained, because throughout the first eight months of last year there was a very large increase in the number of prisoners over 1865.

11. Secondly, I attribute that result to the gradual improvement in the constitution of the police force, a work of great difficulty and labour, which has been only partially carried out as yet, but which nevertheless has already operated as a principal cause of the less frequent visit to this Colony of criminals from the adjacent provinces on the

mainland. I shall presently advert more fully to the organization of the police.

12. Thirdly, the reforms which I have been enabled to effect in the supervision of gaol labour, and the fact, well known to the class whom it principally concerns, that those who are condemned to imprisonment can no longer expect commodious lodging with light labour, but must perform tasks which, though regulated with every due regard to sanitary precautions, are nevertheless sufficiently laborious, has unquestionably deterred numbers from coming here, as of old, to a tempting and productive field for plunder.

13. Fourthly, the most effective means of preventing hardened criminals from returning here is one on which I have had the benefit of many communications from Her Majesty's Government, and which has been specially devised to meet the exceptional exigencies of this Colony; namely, that of allowing certain prisoners who petition, before their sentence expires, for the indulgence to be released conditionally that

they submit to be marked so as to be easily recognized by the police, and that, if Hong Kong. they return to the Colony, and are recognized, they are to be at once punished for returning, according to their agreement, and compelled to undergo the remainder of their sentence.

14. The number of those who petition for the favour of release on such conditions is now sensibly diminished, because enforcement of those conditions, and the risk of discovery on return, have been proved by experience to be real dangers. The effect, however, continues, and the great end which from the first I stated to be my object, namely, to leave the Viceroy of the adjoining provinces to deal there with the criminal classes of those districts, instead of throwing a large portion of them on the hands of the

authorities here, has already been in a great measure attained.

15. As from the first I personally had no doubt that by improving the police, and by rendering prison labour really deterrent, as well as by devising means for preventing the continued return to Hong Kong of confirmed criminals, I could greatly diminish the number of prisoners, I took on myself last October the responsibility of closing the convict hulk at Stone Cutters' Island, and abandoning the new and extensive gaol then just completed there; a policy which has been attended with the most gratifying results, not merely in diminishing crime, by bringing all prisoners under a uniform system of surveillance and discipline, but also because the Colony has since had the advantage of economizing the cost of a very expensive establishment, whilst it has likewise recovered the use of the police force formerly stationed at Stone Cutters' Island. Moreover, the labour of the convicts, perfectly useless there, is now available for the roads and public works here, where it is so much needed.

16. It is impossible to estimate the pecuniary gain to the Colony by the change, whether arising directly through diminished outlay for establishments, or indirectly by utilizing the labour of the convicts at less than \$30,000 per annum; whilst at this moment I cannot compute the diminution of crime in the Colony, as compared with March last year, when I arrived, to be less than 30 per cent. The number of persons tried at the sessions up to this period last year was 181, whereas during the current year it has only

been 115. In 1863, 1864, 1865, the numbers were respectively 311, 293, 326.

17. In all these reforms no one has contributed more to their efficient success than Mr. Douglas, the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, which is probably the best conducted establishment of the kind in the East. I have, therefore, much satisfaction in bringing

that officer's name again to your Grace's notice.

18. In treating of the mode of dealing with the criminal classes here, it is impossible to omit the improvement which has been effected in the energy and "morale" of the police. I do not remember seeing in any Colony a body of men so ineffective in proportion to its number, or so corrupt generally, as the police force which I found here. Its authorized strength then, as now, without counting the naval dockyard police, consisted of 89 Europeans, 377 Indians, chiefly Bombay Sepoys, and 132 Chinese, or a total in round numbers of 600; a force which, so far as numbers go, could in England deal with six times the population of this Island.

19. It must, however, be remembered that in England almost every one is inclined to assist the policeman. Here, on the contrary, in the Chinese quarter of the town, it was possible, till lately, and is even now occasionally so, for a man to be knocked down at noon and robbed in presence of fifty witnesses, without any intervention in his aid,

or the least disposition to give information subsequently to the police.

20. What is still more embarrassing is, the facility with which the Chinese submit to extortion, within certain limits; thereby holding out irresistible temptation to members of the police, when so disposed, to levy a species of black mail as well on those who infringe the law as on those who are really guilty of no offence. In this way each new law made for the protection of society and suppression of crime became with the police a new means of extortion, the temptation to double and treble the amount of their regular pay by such practices being too often irresistible. Hence, between the corruption engendered in the police, and the peculiar facility with which the Chinese lent themselves to such improper practices, as well as the little aid comparatively which they otherwise afforded for detection of crime, it is not surprising that the police force, consisting, as it did, of men without any previous special training for their peculiar duties, should, in proportion to its numbers and cost, have long proved a most inefficient protection to the public.

21. In my Despatch No. 183, of last January, I went very fully into details as to the necessary re-organization of the police force; and am enabled now to report a marked improvement consequent on the changes sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

22. Dismissals and compulsory resignations of inspectors have left but three remaining of the eleven whom I found on my arrival in March last year. I am sensible, however,

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that much remains to be done; and, so far from feeling authorized to relax a vigilant supervision of the police, I hope to improve its organization by further reforms, and amongst them by getting rid of a hundred more of the feeble and corrupt constables from Bombay and Madras, and substituting for them an additional body of Sikhs. The success attending the recent introduction of 100 Sikhs from India into the force, under the command of Mr. C. Creigh, has been so decided that I can now see my way to further improvement by the employment of more Sikhs. Such details, however, must form the subject of a separate communication.

23. I cannot, however, omit noticing here that which has all along been at the root of most of the corruption of the police, viz., the regular stipends which many of the officers and men were in the habit of receiving as hush money from the keepers of illicit gaming houses. On that subject I have already reported so fully that I need add little here, except to state, as a matter connected with the history of 1866 now under review, that by Ordinance No. 8. of 1866, re-enacted with some slight changes and omissions as Ordinance No. 9. of the present year, power was given to the Governor in Council to pass rules for the better limitation and control of gambling, the intent being to strike a decisive blow at all illegal gaming, with its peculiarly corrupting and pernicious consequences, by legalizing it in certain houses, licensed on such conditions, and subject

to such special surveillance, as the Executive might deem necessary.

24. The great obstacle to carrying this very important reform, which was not attempted till the most strenuous efforts had failed to close the haunts of illegal gamblers and their confederates, arose from inability to discover any stimulus to the good conduct and loyal observance of the Government rules by licencees of such houses so powerful as the payment of fees sufficiently large to render forfeiture of their licences a heavy penalty before recouping the expenditure incurred. To myself especially, and to Her Majesty's Government, the receipt of any revenue from gambling licences is most distasteful. It likewise gives room for imputation of motives which have had no influence whatever in shaping the policy of the Executive, because such revenue is really nothing but the accidental result of a legitimate effort to discharge one of the most evident duties of Government, and to suppress certain haunts of vice and crime, dangerous to society from their secret and illegal nature, dangerous also as the most fertile source of demoralization of the force entrusted with the protection of life and property.

25. My Despatch No. 381 of this month will have apprized your Grace of the great success of the experiment as to the principal object aimed at, viz., suppressing illegal gaming, and terminating the corruption of the police, from that source at least. I was also enabled to report the singularly orderly manner in which the houses themselves are conducted. At the same time your Grace will have been almost equally pleased to learn that I have reasonable grounds for expecting to get rid in a great measure of the revenne from licences which alone complicates and embarasses this really important measure. The difficulty cannot certainly be insuperable, though, as the whole matter is so novel and experimental, each step at the commencement requires much prudence and caution

till further experience shall have justified more rapid action.

26. As your Grace is aware, the reforms of local legislation to meet the exigencies of the Colony in dealing with the criminal classes were not overlooked last year; and of the 12 Ordinances passed last year, several contained unusual provisions, and of so important and wide application as to amount almost to a social revolution of our relations towards

the Chinese population.

27. The great evil and the great disgrace of this port for several years before my arrival had been the undoubted fact of its being almost a depôt for the equipment of piratical craft, the reception of booty, and the transmission of information to parties engaged in those nefarious pursuits. To deal adequately with an evil of such magnitude required a scheme of action at once energetic and comprehensive; and if, in devising and carrying out the measures necessary, there was much responsibility, anxiety, and labour, I cannot but feel that they are well repaid by the satisfactory report which I was enabled to transmit to your Grace on the 11th last July.

28. In contrast with the events of last year, when no less than six foreign vessels were captured in the vacinity of these waters, and many atrocious murders of Europeans perpetrated, I was then enabled to state, and can still report, that since the 1st of last September not one such case has recurred, and that out of 18 cases of piracy reported for the three quarters ended on the 30th of last June, most were comparatively trivial, whilst in 11 a punishment more or less effective had been inflicted on the guilty, and in none was there the slightest evidence to show the least connexion between the pirates and their former principal centre of operation, viz., Hong Kong.

29. On the whole I think there is now reasonable hope that the time is not far distant when we may look forward to being able to give a fatal blow to all piracy in these waters,

by finding it safe to declare, under proper sanction, and with the co-operation of the Hong Kong. Chinese Government, that all native craft, unless furnished with special authority from Government, which may be found armed within certain limits, that might afterwards be from time to time extended, shall be liable to seizure, and all on board liable to punishment. I hope soon to bring this matter once more before Her Majesty's Government, with a view to combined action being at last taken, for I see no reason to suppose that the difficulties which may at first embarrass the question will not disappear when fairly grappled with. Many will no doubt be then forced to admit much of the supposed difficulties to have been imaginary, whilst it is certain that whatever portion of them is real will not be overcome by inaction.

30. Reverting now to the action of this Government, I would observe, that although the present diminution in piratical outrages is in part due to the vigilance of the police, and the admirable energy of Commodore Jones, there is no doubt that it has been mainly effected by the legislation of last year, through Ordinances Nos. 6 and 7, by the joint operation of which a thorough knowledge of all Chinese residents here and of all junks visiting this harbour was acquired. In reference to native vessels it was insisted that all should take out licences, if they wished to dispense with the system of passes and permits devised for less frequent visitors, the condition of those licences being, the finding of good security for the legal proceedings of the vessels for which they might be granted.

31. Without encumbering this Report with the numerous details whereby this system was carried out, including a large increase to the harbour master's staff, and the establishment of inspectors and boats at all the different outports, it may suffice to state that the system has been eminently successful, and that I can give the name of every junk and particulars of her armament, cargo, master, and destination that has visited this Island since the first of last January.

32. As no attempt had ever previously been made to ascertain the above particulars about the native craft which frequent the waters of this Colony, and as the reason given was the apparent impossibility of success, this result, contrary to the many opinions against it, is the more gratifying. I may add, that, notwithstanding the novelty of the experiment, there has not been found as yet the least occasion for making any alteration in the Ordinance, a result wholly unexpected by myself.

33. I here annex the last weekly return received yesterday from the Harbour Master, and your Grace will thence perceive that since the beginning of the year no less than 2,356 licences of all sorts have been granted, whilst the total number of documents, including passes, special permits, &c., issued from the harbour department, has amounted to nearly 30,000, and the receipts to over \$20,180 a sum which suffices to meet the increased expenditure necessary for carrying out the details of the Ordinance.

RETURN of LICENCES, &c. issued under Harbour and Coasts Ordinance.

Date 1867.	Junk I	icences.	Fishing 1	Fishing Licences.		Special	Clearances.		
	Annual.	Monthly.	Annual.	Monthly.	Anchorage Passes.	Permits.	Day.	Night.	Remarks.
Total pre- vious Re- turn -	309	92	1,090	531	8,373	9,284	7,852	145	
October 21	1		1		39	38	38		Sulf - Silver Succi
99		_	1		39	37	34	-	
23	1		2	-	46	37	35	1	
94		_	12	_	38	50	43		
95		_	6		47	62	44		
26		-	1	_	34	46	41	_	The part of the part of
,, 27	-	-		-	24	13	19		Sunday.
Total	2		23		267	283	254	1	Total receipts paid into Treasury to
									25th inst. \$20,180
Grand total	311	92	1,113	531	8,640	9,567	8,106	146	The same of the same

Total documents issued, 29,715.

Hong Kong, 28th October 1867.

(Signed)

H. G. THOMSETT, Harbour Master, &c. Hong Kong.

34. Independent, moreover, of the legislation of last year placing the Executive in a position to ascertain the probable movements and real character of all native craft entering and leaving these waters, your Grace will perceive that much collateral information of a highly useful and interesting nature, never before attainable, is now placed within reach of the Government, as to the number of vessels engaged in the native trade, and of their passengers, crews, &c. &c., topics to which I shall presently advert more fully when alluding to the tonnage frequenting this harbour. I must, however, draw attention to the special administrative ability of Mr. Thomsett, the Harbour Master, in grappling with the novel difficulties of the extensive and interesting experiment entrusted him to work out. He has now got all his work thoroughly well in hand, and has exhibited throughout a special fitness for the onerous duties which I was suddenly obliged to impose on him.

35. Supplementary to the above Ordinance for obtaining information as to the movements and character of all native craft in these waters, I introduced Ordinance No. 7. of last year, for the purpose of placing the Executive in possession of the same sort of information as to native householders and residents on shore which Ordinance No. 6. was intended to procure of native proceedings on the water. The working of this Ordinance was entrusted to the Registrar General, Mr. Cecil Smith, who has discharged his difficult duties under it with great ability, and a success which would have been impossible without the knowledge which he possesses of the Chinese language.

36. That Ordinance divides the town of Victoria into districts, and renders compulsory the registration of all Chinese householders, who are, moreover, held ultimately responsible if certain violations of the law specified in Section XVII., and which, with ordinary

vigilance, they can prevent, occur on their premises.

37. Considerable powers are given to the Registrar General, enabling him to summon householders and tenants of portions of houses before him, and to insist on their furnishing him with all particulars respecting themselves and their pursuits. All Chinese servants of every degree in the employment of foreigners were likewise obliged to obtain a certificate of registration, specifying for each his or her native domicile, age, and such other particulars as might assist in tracking servants implicated in any offence. word, the Ordinance provides means for keeping the Government informed of the character and proceedings of the Chinese residents on land, just as the Junk Ordinance

ensures similar information in reference to persons and vessels in colonial waters.

38. It may be interesting here to give the results of last year's legislation, in the number of persons registered as householders (Chinese), and also of servants in the employment of foreigners. The total up to the 30th of last month was

Householders - 7,033 Servants

39. The Ordinance likewise contained some provisions for enabling the Chinese themselves to organize a police force auxiliary to that in Government pay (Sections 12 to 15), and it gives me much pleasure to state that the Chinese have within the last few months organized, at their own expense, and under the immediate surveillance of the Registrar General, a small body of 30 constables, who have already given proofs of alacrity in preventing and detecting crime that contrasts most favourably with the former indifference of the natives. Your Grace cannot but perceive that this small commencement is capable of a very wide and useful extension hereafter.

40. This seems a suitable place for drawing attention to the Registrar General's returns as to the population of the Colony, which has been the object of the recent legislation described. He puts it down at a total of 115,000 on the 31st of last December, of which 29,459 were females. These numbers are exclusive of the military and naval forces, and include 2,113 European and American civil residents, of whom 673 were females.

41. I have every reason to regard this estimate as considerably under the truth, though some allowance must be made for the temporary desertion of the city at the date of the Census, through apprehension of the probable operation of the new Registration and Harbour Ordinance. Those apprehensions, it may be as well to remark, have long since disappeared, and the harbour is more than ever crowded with native craft; whilst the excess of immigration over emigration since the 1st of January would probably not be less than 15,000. At the same time I have no doubt that nearly 1,500 indifferent characters have left the city, a large proportion of that number having sought refuge in Macao, the present principal haunt in this part of the world of pirates, kidnappers, and "mauvais sujets" generally.

42. I may also observe that the heading of "coloured" is ill chosen as descriptive of the Chinese in the Registrar General's population returns. As a race they are fairer

than many inhabitants of southern Europe, whilst in North China they are as fair as Hong Kong. Europeans generally. I may also add, that I place no reliance on the returns given of mortality amongst the Chinese, and still less on the contents of the singular column headed "Mortality out of the Colony," which is described as amounting to 864 deaths last year. There can possibly be no sensible meaning attached to such a return, which is evidently absurd, and I have directed its omission in future, though it appears to have formed one of the regular annual returns here for a series of years.

43. Of the remaining Ordinances passed last year, to which I have not specially adverted, the most important, as affecting the social condition of the population, are the Ordinances for Maintenance of Order and Cleanliness (No. 8.), since amended, and the "Ordinance for Suppression of Piracy." (No. 9.) The latter constitutes a very excellent No. 9. of 1868. Court to try, without intervention of a jury, certain classes of piracy cases, whenever the Attorney General sees reason to prefer proceeding in the new Court, i. e., during vacation, or to prevent delay leading to loss of evidence or tampering with witnesses.

- 44. The Court is to consist of the Chief Justice (President), the Senior Naval Officer, the Judge of the Summary Court, and two others to be named from time to time by the Governor. The most valuable portion of the Ordinance, however, is that which enacts new penalties for confederation of every kind and degree with pirates, &c., offences over which by a recent Ordinance the Supreme Court has now equal and similar jurisdiction. The new Court has not yet been consituted, though, without having the least reason to find fault with the administration of justice in piracy cases before the Supreme Court, I hope soon to call the former into existence, because in certain contingencies its aid might be valuable.
- 45. No Ordinance, however, that was passed last year, or indeed for many years, caused so much opposition and gave rise to so much debate as that for imposing Stamp Duties. (No. 12.) It had, nevertheless, become evident that the annual income of the Colony was unequal to its expenditure, especially as the Mint, to which I shall presently advert, had consumed almost all the surplus capital of the Colony. I had foreseen, and reported during the first week of my arrival here, that the legitimate expenses of the Colony, unaided by any Customs Revenue, and increased by the double burthen of the Mint, if unsuccessful, and the annual military contribution, would probably end in reducing the Colony to bankruptcy, an event which may be said to have taken place last year, when I was obliged on my own responsibility to borrow 80,000 dollars from one of the banks at 8 per cent. interest, for the purpose of meeting the ordinary expenses of Government.
- 46. The stoppage of useful public works, such as supplying the town with water, drainage, making of roads, and supplying adequate hospital accommodation, aided by one fortunate land sale, have put the Government in a position to meet the most urgent demands, but the arrears of the military contribution since the 1st of last September remain unpaid. More recently, the destruction caused by typhoons, of the great public work of the city, viz., the sea wall which protects the praya, or main thoroughfare of the city along the harbour, and on the strength of which depends the security of the fine range of buildings extending for miles along the praya, has completely disabled the Colony, if held liable for its restoration, from meeting the liabilities imposed by Her Majesty's Government, that is to say, it is disabled from meeting them if it attempts to discharge the ordinary duties of a Government to the community.
- 47. In my Despatch No. 361., of the 11th ultimo, I had the honour to furnish your Grace with convincing proofs that the permanent ordinary revenue of the Colony has certainly not increased for several years, and that, although it had apparently risen from 120,000l. in 1863 to 160,000l. in 1866, the increase, so far from leaving any balance available to meet fresh burdens, was wholly imaginary, and occasioned by a difference in the mode of keeping the postal accounts, as well as by an increase in the police and other rates which are annually leviable for special objects, and are not available for other purposes. In fact, I proved that, having regard to these considerations, there was actually less available revenue in 1866 by nearly 10,000l. than in 1863.
- 48. The argument, therefore, in favour of some increase of taxation, was irresistible, and I think was wholly unanswered by those who memorialized against the Stamp Ordinance, which is the only measure that in a free port like this could have been imposed without striking a blow at the root of the prosperity of the Colony, a tax, moreover, the fairest of all in its incidence, and the most lightly borne, as it is self-adjusting

Hong Kong. in amount, because the latter must always be proportioned to the number and magnitude of the transactions on which the tax falls.

- 49. Unavoidable delays, as your Grace is aware, prevented the Stamp Ordinance from coming into operation till the 10th instant, and, judging from the present receipts, I think an increase to the revenue from \$100,000 to \$120,000 may be expected from that source. I understand, however, that so large an amount is not anticipated by those whose opinions on such a subject should have weight.
- 50. I have, however, entered so fully and so frequently into all details connected with the financial position of the Colony and the Stamp Ordinance, that, with the above remarks, I pass to another subject of great interest, and which it would be impossible to omit from a review of the year 1866. Few incidents indeed connected with Hong Kong during the past year attracted more attention than the opening of the Mint; a scheme originally devised with a view to increasing the colonial revenue by profits expected from the coinage of dollars and other money for circulation principally in China. The establishment was formally opened by myself on the 7th of May of last year, but its success has unfortunately not as yet answered the expectations of its projectors.
- 51. In my Despatch No. 172. of the 15th December last, I had the honour to lay before the Secretary of State the report of a commission of inquiry into the Mint, and also a return of the true cost of the Mint up to that time, in buildings, machinery, &c., &c., as well as loss of interest on capital sunk, an account of the items of which had been very carefully revised by the Auditor General, and the total even then amounted to \$450,000. This has been since increased, including all expenditure here and in Europe on account of the Mint, to not less than \$520,000.
- 52. Against that expenditure the only profits received from the Mint have been \$18,823, as explained in my Despatch No. 373. of last month. A portion of those profits consists only of the credit taken by the Mint for alloy as silver in the subsidiary coins struck for Government, although a large portion of that coinage still lies unavailable in the Treasury, in consequence of the unexpected difficulty of getting rid of it. It is quite true, as remarked by me in my Despatch of last December, that if subsidiary coins be made with only 80 per cent. of silver instead of 90, as in the case of dollars, we should get 100 instead of 90 dollars for 80 parts silver, but till we can induce the public to take them, not merely is no profit made, but a loss of interest is incurred on the silver employed.
- 53. As the seignorage charged has been reduced one half since the 12th of December last year, and is now only one instead of two per cent., a figure so low that it would require an annual coinage of upwards of 13 millions of dollars merely to pay the Mint's current expenses when in full work, with so small a seignorage it would seem that every reasonable encouragement has been given to the public to send in bullion for minting. The Chinese Government has also declared the Hong Kong dollar a legal tender in payment of all Government dues, but, nevertheless, the Mexican dollar still commands a premium over the Hong Kong dollar, whilst the price of silver has ruled so high for a long period, that, with the exception of a temporary profit made recently under favourable circumstances, by minting Japanese itchiboos, there has been scarcely a possibility of the public profitably using the Mint.
- 54. No doubt there were several radical errors committed by the projectors of the Mint, who, it must be remembered, had not the aid of actual experience as to the working of the project to guide them, and therefore any comments which I may now make, or which I have ever made, cannot be supposed to reflect in the least on those who were probably more competent than myself to form an opinion based on the information then before them.
- 55. It would appear, however, that the occasional extra value formerly placed by the Chinese in some districts on certain coins like the Carolus dollar, which rose to a premium at one time of more than 12 per cent., led to inferences not justified by the facts. The Chinese at the opening of trade in new districts naturally distrusted strange coins offered by foreigners, and were ready to give more for those previously known to them. The knowledge, however, which experience conferred, gradually put an end to all fanciful distinctions between coins, leaving only that which arose from the difference of their supposed intrinsic worth, or their general recognition for trading purposes. It would also seem that the projectors of the Mint overlooked the fact that the ancient usages of the Chinese empire necessarily prevent, in the long run, a preference for one

dollar more than another, or for any coin whatever, except by reason of its greater value Hong Kong. as containing more silver.

- 56. This will be clearer if it be remembered that the real medium of exchange in China consists simply of silver, and whether in shapeless lumps or elegant coin is a matter of indifference in the chief marts of trade. This principle is carried so far that the coins received in payment of Chinese Customs dues, and which are taken simply for their intrisic worth as compared with the standard of pure Hakwan silver, are as a rule melted down indiscriminately by the Chinese into the form of shoes and bars. It may be urged that a system which, strictly speaking, should entail a separate weighing and assaying for each transaction, is indefensibly barbarous and inconvenient. Undoubtedly it is so; but the fact that such has been the custom of the country for centuries, and also that the whole body of Chinese officials is interested in maintaining a practice which gives them innumerable opportunities for cheating, or, as it is called here, squeezing Government debtors and others, is not the less a fact of extreme importance when calculating the chance that people will pay a premium for minting silver into a shape which confers on it no increased purchasing power in China.
- 57. With the exception of the gratuitous coinage of \$376,859 at the commencement from defaced coins, when for some months no seignorage was charged by the Mint, the whole work done by that establishment on which seignorage was paid since 7th of last May to the 30th ultimo, if computed in dollars, has amounted only to \$961,726.
- 58. As your Grace is aware, there are numerous other very interesting questions connected with this subject, quite beyond the scope of this present communication. I must, however, particularize the surprising difficulty of getting rid of subsidiary coins, which one might have imagined would have been eagerly welcomed as a substitute for the little broken pieces of silver still used as change in the neighbouring provinces. Even the copper cents coined for the Colony in England, and on which a net profit of 20 per cent. at least was expected, are now at 35 per cent. discount, independent of heavy charges for freight and manufacture, as they were ordered from England.
- 59. On the whole I incline to the opinion that, even if efforts now being made succeed in procuring the recognition and acceptance by the Japanese Government of the Hong Kong dollar, the Mexican will for many years be manufactured and laid down here more cheaply than the former can be produced, whilst there is no reasonable ground for supposing that the Hong Kong dollar, unless it contains more silver, that is, unless it costs more to manufacture it than the Mexican, will secure any preference over the latter. At present the Mexican coin, from its general recognition in Japan as well as China, is at a premium of nearly one per cent. over the Hong Kong dollar, which itself maintains here a premium of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over its intrinsic worth.
- 60. At the same time, so many elements of uncertainty caused by varying exchanges, &c., &c., and the shifting necessities of commerce, must always enter into calculations of this kind, that no one should pretend to form a decided judgment as to almost any result connected with the possible success of the Mint, if that establishment could be permanently maintained. It must obviously be often useful and profitable, to the banks at least; but the propriety of keeping it open for such a reason, even for a month, at the cost of the Colony, is a totally different matter. Even that point, however, is apparently not very easy of solution, for it is a question which has occupied the attention of Her Majesty's Government since last February, and I am not aware that any decision has yet been arrived at.
- 61. It would be very difficult to decide whether any effect, and, if so, of what nature. has been produced on the success of the Mint by the great commercial depression which has existed in China for the last three years, and the general shock to credit in the East, which has resulted in part, but in part only, from that suffered in Europe at an earlier period in the current year, and which has left but five out of eleven banks remaining at Hong Kong, whilst numerous firms, some of them of the very highest standing, have
- 62. These events have been very painful to witness, though ultimately they may evolve good from evil, if hereafter they tend to reduce speculation within more reasonable limits, and curb that extravagant waste hitherto so general in the style and maintenance of the establishments kept up, not in one but in many ports, by those who assumed the position of partners in leading houses. Waste and extravagance are questionable at all time as a matter of good taste or good example, and from the

Hong Kong. first must have been inconsistent with the economy recommended by sound trading principles, as indeed the result has shown.

- 63. Nevertheless, though individuals and firms have disappeared, the great field for commercial enterprise, so far from being thereby contracted, is extending, and I propose to give here some particulars descriptive of what I may call the movement of this port; because I question if any adequate conception has been formed by the general public of the large interests centered here, or the extraordinary life and movement which distinguishes this great emporium of eastern trade, though it seems scarcely noticed by those habitually engaged in it.
- 64. It may be conceded that the convenience and importance of a port are best tested by the number of vessels which find it their interest to resort there. If we judge of Hong Kong by this standard, or by the class of vessels which frequent the port, and the value of their cargoes, it must be regarded as occupying a very high position. Even during the commercial depression of 1866 throughout China, no fewer than 3,783 British and foreign vessels, equal to 2,015,747 tons, entered and cleared from here. I may remark that, large as that amount was, the tonnage does not include the shipping between this port and Macao and Canton. The number only of those vessels is given in the Harbour Master's enclosed report. This will be corrected in future returns. Of the above total, 1,727 vessels were British, with an aggregate of 1,047,447 tons.
- 65. I have already explained that till the passing of the Harbour and Coasts Ordinance of last year there had been no means of giving the least account of the native craft frequenting the harbour and colonial waters. I am, therefore, much gratified at being enabled now to supply that omission for the first half of the present year, and we may thence approximately infer, by allowing double a similar amount for the whole of last year, what was the real number of vessels and tonnage resorting to this harbour during that period.
- 66. I therefore annex a return of those vessels for the first half of the current year, and your Grace will perceive that during the six months computed from the 1st January last to the 30th of June last native vessels amounting in number to 26,856, and equal to 648,825 tons, arrived and cleared from Hong Kong. Doubling these figures, we obtain a probable approximate total for the whole year 1866 of 53,712 native vessels, equal to 1,297,650 tons.
- 67. If we add the latter figures to those previously given of the British and foreign vessels using the harbour during 1866, we obtain a total of vessels 57,495, tonnage 3,313,397.
- 68. It must further be remembered that the above figures do not include the vessels, cargo-boats, sampans, and passenger boats, &c. which are licensed by the Registrar General These, according to that officer's return, enclosed in the Blue Book, amount in number to 3,445 with a floating population of nearly 27,000 persons.
- 69. I am enabled further to complete this picture of the business carried on in the waters of the Colony by giving for the first time an approximate estimate of the number of persons arriving and departing from the Colony. As the Harbour Master's returns now comprise the numbers of the crews and passengers in every native vessel for the first six months of the current year, and given as 105,501, adding to these the passengers carried to and fro in the various Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao steamers, which considerably exceed 1,000 daily, and of whom, through the courtesy of the directors, I have received accurate returns, and also computing 20,000 arrivals and departures for the same period in passenger boats and vessels licensed by the Registrar General, I find the total for the first six months of 1866 exceeds 321,000, or 642,000 in the year.
- 70. Therefore the "movement" in the port for 1866 and other average years may be approximately estimated at 57,495 vessels, equal to 3,313, 397 tons, exclusive of British and foreign shipping to Canton and Macao, and carrying 642,000 persons to and from Hong Kong annually.
- 71. As probably 900,000 tons at the least of the native craft arrive and leave for foreign ports, and cannot therefore be included in the "coasting trade," within the sense intended in the Board of Trade's returns, we may regard the total tonnage entered and cleared seawards from Hong Kong in 1866, exclusive of coasting trade, as not having been less than 2,900,000 tons, notwithstanding the large decrease for that year commented on in the Harbour Master's report.

Encl. No. 3.

72. Comparing these figures with those of other British possessions, as given in the Hong Kong. Statistical Abstract of the Board of Trade for 1863, which unfortunately is the latest within my reach, it will be found that the tonnage entering and clearing seaward from

that of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island united. It equals that of all Australia collectively at the same period, exclusive of New Zealand; whilst it exceeds the entire tonnage employed in the commerce of all the British West Indies,

this port considerably exceeds that of all Canada seawards in 1863, and nearly equals

including British Guiana, by more than one million of tons.

- 73. As the port of Hong Kong is entirely free from every impost, no export or import duties being leviable, and there being no charges even for lights or tonnage dues, direct information as to the value of the trade cannot be furnished. Hence, in the long List of the British Possessions in the Board of Trade's Statistical Tables, "no Returns" has hitherto stood opposite Hong Kong alone; and having communicated with the Chamber of Commerce on the subject, I much fear that there is no possible means of acquiring the information, without such interference with the present perfect freedom of the port as might injuriously affect the interests of the latter. It is, however, not wholly impossible to gauge the magnitude of the operations conducted within the confined limits of this small Island.
- 74. In my Despatch No. 172. of the 15th December last, I drew attention to the enormous quantity of bullion and coin imported annually into the Colony, whilst, nevertheless, for months no employment was given to the Mint. The imported coin and bullion I then estimated at 50 millions of dollars annually, and I understand, on very good authority, that at this moment there are nearly seven millions of dollars in coin and bullion within this city, of which the banks hold about five; an amount whose magnitude, so far from proving a healthy condition of trade, denotes its general sluggishness, and the diminished opportunities for lucrative operations.
- 75. When business was more active, the average amount of bills and other securities in local use was probably nearer nine than eight millions of dollars, whilst the amount actually held at present does not much exceed four millions and a half, a value considerably less, by at least more than a third, than the bullion and coin now stored in the city.
- 76. In venturing to give the above approximate calculations, I have of course no means of vouching their accuracy, but I nevertheless put them forward as deserving attention, being based on information supplied by the parties most conversant with the monetary and general business transactions of the port.
- 77. Those transactions are not exclusively connected with the China trade, but nevertheless may all be regarded as, collaterally at least, springing therefrom, and, as so, dependent generally on the immediate prospects of that and the Japan trade, that I can scarcely place before your Grace a true picture of the prospects of a Colony which is the main depôt of that commerce, and the centre of the orders issued and the operations connected therewith, unless I allude to the extent and prospects of the general trade with China.
- 78. I have fortunately just received from Mr. Robert Hart, the very able Inspector General of Imperial Customs for the Chinese Government, an analysis of the returns of the China trade during 1865 and 1866. Not to add unnecessarily to the length of this communication, which has already much exceeded the limits which I had proposed to myself at its commencement, I shall confine myself to the figures connected with last year, except in stating that the total trade in 1865 was 272,232,038 taels, and in 1866 was 299,929,541 taels, exhibiting an increase in the latter year of 26,697,513 taels, or eight millions sterling, an increase which I may say has generally averaged since 1860 11 per cent. on each preceding year.
- 79. Consul Robertson, at Canton, has recently occupied himself much with the returns connected with the trade of the open ports, bringing to his analysis of that trade great experience, accuracy, and patience. He has most kindly furnished me with the results of his investigation into the trade of 1866, and his general result for that year tallies almost exactly with the figures given by Mr. Hart, whilst his analysis is more clearly or rather more succinctly put.

Summary for 1866.

Imports

Treasure

Exports

Treasure

80. I cannot, therefore, do better than give his concluding summary in full. It is as Hong Kong. follows:

> Taels. Sterling. 172,462,136 54,613,008 40,332,532 12,771,967 102,923,034 32,592,295

43,777,753

13,862,955

Total 359,495,455 £113,840,225

Or, Imports and exports 275,385,170 87,205,303 Treasure 84,110,285 26,634,922 Total 359,495,455 £ 113,840,225

The above figures show the total value of foreign trade with China, including the re-exports. These, however, must be deducted to arrive at the true amount.

		Taels.	Sterling.
Total value of foreign trade		350,495,455	113,840,225
Deduct re-exports		59,565,914	18,862,539
Deduct re-exports			70,002,009
True value of foreign trade -	~	299,929,541	£94,977,686

81. Hence it will be seen that foreign trade with China in the year 1866 amounted to close upon ninety-five millions of pounds sterling, and of that trade the share of Great Britain amounted to no less than 71,518,723L, or nearly 63 per cent. of the

82. Your Grace will probably admit that the above marvellous figures of so enormous a trade, which is not merely still existing but annually extending, leave little ground for apprehending that there is not ample room for future large and remunerative commercial transactions, if ordinary prudence be exercised; and that whatever may be the depression existing at present, there is every legitimate reason to expect that, as the business itself is not affected in value or extent, it may hereafter be carried on with profit, though probably that profit will not be divided as in former years, but be shared by more numerous firms of a more manageable size, but with smaller capital, and therefore necessitating more stringent economy.

83. That the trade has been profitable to China, which country has now a steady increasing Customs revenue exceeding last year two millions and a half sterling, may be regarded as a fortunate circumstance, because it must make it the interest of that government to be liberal in its encouragement of a commerce which is so profitable, not merely to the Imperial Exchequer, but which, as Mr. Hart observes in a former report on the trade of 1865, had in the five preceding years left the balance of trade in favour of China, as shown by the excess of her exports over imports, which excess amounted during that period to no less than 40,000,000l. sterling.

84. It must also be borne in mind that Hong Kong is no less connected with the Japanese trade than the Chira trade, and I may safely estimate the annual value of the former as already amounting to nearly six millions sterling, whilst it is probably capable of vast extension. Enough, however, has been said to show the vast importance to Great Britain of this small and comparatively barren Island, which has become the centre of the leading commercial operations connected with the colossal trade of which I have ventured to bring some details to your Grace's notice. It is here that those reside who direct the principal transactions connected with that trade, whilst they maintain other establishments and agencies at the commercial marts along the coast. It is also here that Her Majesty's Government has been enabled to establish their most secure depôt for all military and naval stores required east of Singapore. Here are docks capacious enough to take in almost the largest vessels in the Navy, and a harbour that could shelter at once hundreds of the finest ships, and is not surpassed in convenience of anchorage, and scarcely in beauty, by any other harbour in the world.

85. There is, however, no parallel between this and any other British settlement. It owes its importance to no productions or manufactures of its own. The very trade which

it controls, and the shipments which it orders, are for the most part conducted many Hong Kong. hundreds of miles away from Hong Kong. It is a mere depôt, which may be regarded as maintained for the general convenience of Her Majesty's Government and of British interests, so largely connected with the trade of China.

- 86. Nothing can be more admirable than its geographical position, at the south-eastern extremity of China, offering equal facilities to vessels bound north, south, or west, and, as lately proved in the case of the Pacific Mail Steam Company, offering greater conveniences than any other place in China as a central station for the traffic between California and China. Nevertheless it is impossible to foresee what changes, by operation of telegraph and railway or other circumstances, may yet affect its prosperity; and I should gladly see the interval actively employed in making sanitary improvements, and, if possible, in rendering the loading and discharge of vessels a more easy and less expensive operation than at present.
- 87. I must now refer your Grace, for further information as to the condition of the Colony, in respect to education, climate, and postal communication, to the accompanying reports of Mr. Stewart, Dr. Murray, and the Postmaster General. I cannot think of lengthening this Despatch by dealing with those subjects, especially as the two former do not admit of being at once treated briefly and usefully I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

RETURN showing the Number of Prisoners confined in Victoria Gaol, classified as under, from the 1st November 1866 to 4th October 1867.

Date.	No. of Criminals.	Debtors.	Remand for Trial and Crown Witnesses.	Total.	Remarks.
1866.					
November 1 -	682	2	38	722	From the 1st July up to the 4th October
15 -	735	3	65	803	inclusive, no less than 86 European seamer
December 1 -	716	*3	34	753	have been received in gaol for refusal or
15 -	707	4	26	737	duty, &c. During the same period 32
1867.			the state of		Indians from one ship alone, viz., "Glen-
	694	4	20	718	Roy," for the same offence, were also re-
January 1 - 15 -	690	3	21	714	ceived in gaol.—Total 118.
77	610	7	23	640	(Signed) F. Douglas,
February 1 -	553	8	26	587	Gaol Superintendent.
March 1 -	579	7	14	600	
15 -	576	7	22	605	
27	492	6	29	527	
April 1 - 15 -	449	5	38	492	
"	447	5	21	473	
May 1 -	417	5	22	444	
,, 15 -	424	5	22	451	
June 1 -	462	5	21	488	이 원모에서 무슨데 하시다는 것이 없는데 없는 것이다.
, 15 -	482	6	12	500	
July 1 -		7	24	522	
,, 15 -	491	8	17	503	
August 1 -	478	8	16	551	
,, 15 -	527	9	16	523	Supreme Court in Recess.
September 1 -	498	8	24	542	Dalla de la constante de la co
,, 15 -	510	4	23	528	
October 1 -	501	1	30	533	
" 4 -	502	1			
Total -	13,222	130	604	13,956	

Memo.—The Prisoners belonging to the Hulk were borne on the books of that establishment until 31st October 1866; after that date they were transferred to the books of this department.

(Signed) Gaol Superintendent. Hong Kong.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

RETURN of NATIVE VESSELS and TONNAGE under Harbour and Coasts Ordinance, No. 6 of 1866, from January 1st to June 30th, 1867.

	Arriv	als.	Departures.		Passengers.			
Number of Vessels.	Cargo.	Ballast.	Cargo.	Ballast.	Arrived.	Sailed.	Remarks.	
12,424 1,130 * Total - 13,554	Tons. 209,335	Tons. 70,942 7 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	53,215	52,286	Total 105,501.	
12,148 1,154	- :	-	295,426	73,122				
Total 13,302 *13,554			368,54 *280,27					
Grand total - 26,856	Vessels equa	al to -	- 648,82	5 ,,				

Hong Kong, 26th September 1867.

(Signed)

H. G. Тномѕетт. Harbour Master, &c.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 394.)

Government House, Hong Kong, 14th November 1867.

My LORD DUKE, In reference to my Despatch No. 384., transmitting the Blue Book for last year, and more especially to those paragraphs (80 and 81) which give the summary of foreign trade with China during 1866, I think it desirable to transmit in full the analysis of the figures for that year with which Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, Mr. Robertson, has kindly favoured me, and which he has since supplemented with the figures for the years 1864 and 1865.

He has done this in a manner so clear and simple that the document appears to me to deserve the widest circulation, and in the event of any publicity being given to my Report, I should wish the Trade Analysis by Consul Robertson to be published with it as explanatory of and supplemental thereto, for the magnitude of the figures, which I accepted as accurate, is such as to require some such voucher as that which the details furnished by Consul Robertson supply.

I have, &c.,

RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c.

Governor.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Hong Kong.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1864.

Port.	Value in Taels.	_	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CANTON.	1 1 1 E			
mports	5,874,234			
Treasure	O COM MOO			
Exports	0.000.000			
Creasure		- 16,988,572		
Re-Exports		- 3,647,580	13,340,992	4,446,997
				,
Swatow.				
mports	6,118,195			
Freasure				
Exports	3,537,357			
Treasure		- 9,655,552		
Re-Exports		- 70,339	9,585,213	3,195,071
Amoy.	O OM W OM I			
mports				
Treasure				
Exports		10.007.007		
Creasure	763,256	10,985 ,2 37 - 555,587	10,429,650	2 476 570
Re-Exports		999,981	10,429,000	3,476,550
FOOCHOW.				
mports	6,820,229			
Treasure				
Exports	1			
Treasure		- 19,366,828		
Re-Exports		- 179,788	19,187,040	6,395,680
		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	-5,101,010	0,000,000
Formosa.				
mports	615,069			
Treasure	100 110	the same of		
Exports	HOO HEE			
Γreasure		- 1,484,986		
Re-Exports		- 165,153	1,319,833	439,945
			,	,- 10
Ningpo.				
mports	10,264,616			
Creasure ·	547,742			
Exports	0 0 40 000			
Freasure		- 17,062,664		
Re-Exports		- 1,289,182	15,773,482	5,257,827
SHANGHAE.	0100000			
mports	01,000,00			
Treasure				
Exports		100 005 000		
Freasure		128,265,222	00.010.000	00.050.05
Re-Exports	-	- 38,652,356	89,612,866	29,870,955
CHIN KIANG.		The state of the s		
	4,673,293			
mports	10 # 100	THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO		
Exports		A TOTAL		
reasure		- 6,287,412		
Re-Exports		1,011,435	5,275,977	1,758,659
Tanpotto		1,011,100	0,210,311	1,100,009
KIU KIANG.				
mports	2,622,317			
Creasure			The second second	
	4,070,948		9619701	
Creasure	174,661	8,197,236		
Re-Exports		97,253	8,099,983	2,699,994
	THE RESERVE		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	_,,,
HANKOW.	The same of the			
mports		THE EX PRINTS	HANNEY STATE	
	1,000,000		Contract to the last of the la	
Treasure	4,822,856			
Treasure	13,444,582			
Treasure Exports	20 111 400	27 ,267,429	27,076,335	

Hong Kong.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1864-continued.

Port.			Value in Taels.		-	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
Manager and and							
Снегос).						
Imports -		-	3,024,974				
Treasure -		-	486,778				
Exports -		- 1	2,758,547				
Treasure -		-	-	-	6,270,299		
Re-Exports -		-	-	-	466,157	5,804,142	1,934,714
TIENTS	IN.						
Imports -	-	-	7,779,197				
Treasure	-	-					
Exports -	-	-	1,730,786				
Treasure -	-	-	-	**	9,509,983		
Re-Exports -	-	-	-	-	133,775	9,376,208	3,125,403
NEWCHWA	ANG.						
Imports -	-	-	709,738				
Treasure -		-					
Exports -	-	-	1,710,398			NAME OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER O	
Treasure -	-	2 -	-	-	2,420,136		
Re-Exports -	4	-		-	31,228	2,388,908	796,303
		-		-			
Total -		- 44	263,761,556			217,270,629	72,423,543

SUMMARY.

Imports - Exports - Treasure -		- Tael	s 128,025,562 97,483,481 38,252,513	Sterlin	ag £42,675,187 32,494,494 12,750,837
Total		- Taels	263,761,556	,,]	£87,920,518
	K# 1		Or,		
Imports and Exp		- Taels	225,509,043	"	75,169,681
Treasure -		"	38,252,513	"	12,750,837
Total	-	- Taels	263,761,556	"	£87,920,518
			Name and Address of the Owner, where		

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1864 is in taels 263,761,556, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 87,920,518L, including re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade Deduct Re-Exports	Taels	263,761,556 46,490,927	Sterling £87,920,518 -, 15,496,975
Net Value of Foreign Trade	Taels	217,270,629	" £72,423,543

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1864 is in taels 217,270,629, and in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 72,423,543l.

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1864 amounted to the sum of taels 8,177,144, or in sterling 2,725,714l., which, if added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 271,938,700, or in sterling, 90,646,233l. Probably it was more, for treasure being free, a correct account of its import and export was not kept at all the ports, and, therefore, in round numbers, 95,000,000l sterling may be taken as a fair estimate of the value of foreign trade in the year 1864.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865.

Port.		Value in Taels.		Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CANTO Imports Treasure Exports Treasure Re-Exports)N.	7,569,084 - 2,452,939 - 12,945,117 - 2,142,028	25,109,168 212,401	24,896,767	8,298,922

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865—continued.

Hong Kong.

Port.		Value in Taels.		Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
Commonwo					
SWATOW		7,584,270			
ports -	Apr. 12	532,458			
easure		3,033,818			
ports -		3,829,843	14,980,389	Mary State of the	
easure			220,775	14,759,614	4,919,872
exports -			220,110	11,100,011	1,515,012
Amoy.					
orts -	-	9,302,877			
sure		858,035			
rts		1,935,388			
sure -	-	3,357,900	15,454,200		
xports -			878,781	14,575,419	4,858,473
Foochow		6769 190			
rts -		6,762,129			
ure		5,010,279			
ets -	-	15,286,284	27,676,426		
ure		617,734	206,751	27,469,675	9,156,558
ports -			200,731	21,409,070	3,100,008
Такао.					
ts -		1,130,234			
ure		92,704			
ets -	-	769,522			
ure · ·		222,078	2,214,538		
ports -			116,744	2,097,794	699,265
TAMSUI.		500 105			
s -	•	520,135			
re		242,697			
s -		242,091	762,832		
re			730	762,102	254,034
orts -		A LINE WATER	100	102,102	201,001
Ningpo.		The second second second			
s -	-000	6,484,599		A STATE OF THE STA	
ire		808,085			
ts -		5,085,255		1100	
ire		3,023,408	15,401,347	1710000	# nor 155
ports -			294,968	15,106,379	5,035,459
SHANGHA					
		64,616,815			
ts	1 1 7	10,218,189			
rts -	14.54	0 H 000 H01			
ire		1 000 000	116,366,140		
cports -			48,366,215	67,999,925	22,666,642
		THE RESERVE			
CHINKIAN		0.000 (01			
ts -	-				
re					
rts -	-		10 941 171		
ire	-	1,974,251	10,841,171 51,806	10,789,365	3,596,458
ports -			31,000	10,709,000	0,000,400
KIUKIANG	To really		all the	The same of the same	
ts -	1-10-1	3,432,473			
ire		2,239,412			
ts	- 17	6,273,930			
ire		4,325,534	16,271,349		
ports -			239,596	16,031,753	5,343,917
		1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1			
HANKOW	•	11 007 200			
s -		11,007,309			
re		70 000 001			
ts - ire		0.000.000	29,134,038		
ports -		0,202,300	383,675	28,750,363	9,583,453
Porto	1000		0.00,010	-5,100,000	-,000,100
Снегоо					
rts -		4,654,024			
sure		361,650			
ts -		2,529,006			
		1,207,376	8,752,056	8,619,422	2,873,140
sure - xports			132,634		

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

Hong Kong.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865-continued.

	Por	t.			Value in Tael	s.		Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
	TIENT	SIN.							
Imports	-		-	-	11,911,156				
Treasure	-		-	-	129,900	13			
Exports			-		1,690,869				
Treasure	-		-		3,671,641		17,403,566		
Re-Exports					-	-	58,719	17,344,847	5,781,615
	EWCH	WANG							
Imports	-		-	-	1,686,177				
Treasure			-	-	39,600				
Exports	-		***		2,167,314			VI Land to the State of the Sta	
Treasure	to				-	-	3,893,091		
Re-Exports	-		-	-		-	24,917	3,868,174	1,289,391
Tota	1 .			_	304,260,311			253,071,599	84,357,199

	SUMMARY.	
Imports	- Taels 143,030,763 - ,, 26,527,091 - ,, 102,829,112 - ,, 31,873,345 - Taels 304,260,311	Sterling £47,676,921 ,, 8,842,364 ,, 34,276,371 ,, 10,624,448 ,, £101,420,104
Imports and Exports Treasure	Or, - Taels 245,859,875 - ,, 58,400,436	Sterling £81,953,292 ,, 19,466,812
Total	- Taels 304,260,311	£101.420.104

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1865 is in taels 304,260,311, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 101,420,104l., including the re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade Taels 304,260,311	Sterling £101,420 103
Deduct Re-Exports ,, 51,188,712	,, 17,062,904
Net Value Taels 253,071,699	" £84,357,199

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1865 is, in taels, 253,071,699, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 84,357,199l.

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1865 amounted to the sum of taels 8,297,275, or in sterling, 2,765,758l., which, added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 312,557,586, or in sterling, 104,185,862l.

In round numbers the foreign trade with China in the year 1865 may be taken at 101,500,000l. sterling

sterling.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1866.

Port.			Value in Taels	Value in Taels.			Sterling.		
Imports Treasure Exports Treasure Re-Exports	CAN	TON.			10,628,326 4,404,776 14,124,468 3,249,027		32,406,597 186,522	32,220,075	10,740,025
	SWA	row.						- C. 1 T. 1 T. 1	
Imports	-			-	9,229,705			10000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Treasure	-	-	-	-	938,046				
Exports	-		-		3,663,557				
Treasure			-	-	3,593,877		17,425,185		
Re-Exports				-		-	129,997	17,295,188	5,765,063

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

.Hong Kong.

37

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1866—continued.

Port.	Value in Taels.		Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
Amoy.				
	8,902,041			
	1,018,685			
	2,992,383			
	2,476,715	15,389,824		
		938,465	14,451,359	4,817,119
Foochow.	0.000 500		HOLDER OF THE PARTY	
	8,663,590 7,955,208			
	7 1 404 004			
	14,587,335	32,455,957		
	1,215,021	321,965	32,133,992	10,711,331
TAKAO.				
	1,195,267			
	11,325			
The state of the s	869,084	2,384,717		
2 000000	309,041	- 2,384,717 4,625	2,380,092	793,364
Re-Exports		1,020	2,000,092	793,364
TAMSUI.				
	711,687			
Creasure	Nil.			
Exports	252,814			
Creasure	- Nil.	964,501		
Re-Exports		- 5,899	958,602	319,534
NINGPO.				
	- 6,409,051			
	512,791	T	the second of	
	6,435,810			
Creasure	3,274,118	16,631,770	The second second	
T .		- 255,186	16,376,584	5,458,861
2	Control to the second			
SHANGHAI.	74 400 000			
1	74,492,286			
	21,744,904 31,773,262			
T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T	31,773,262 - 14,685,032	142,695,484		
	14,000,002	- 56,746,719	85,948,765	28,649,588
Tapor to		50,110,110	00,010,100	20,010,000
CHINKIANG.				
Imports	5,879,931			
Creasure	1,023,230			
	- 592,861			
	- 2,156,398	9,652,420	0.010.005	0.000.110
Re-Exports		- 33,093	9,619,327	3,206,442
KIUKIANG.				
	- 3,952,618			
Creasure	1,183,276			
Exports	6,170,202			
Creasure	80,000	11,386,096		
Re-Exports		- 163,853	11,222,243	3,740,748
HANKOW.	17 044 979			
mports	- 17,044,278			
Exports	- 875,938 - 14,207,480			
	4,471,641	36,599,337		
Re-Exports	- 1,7,7,011	- 306,340	36,292,997	12,097,666
		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	-5,-5-,501	,001,000
Снегоо.				
mports	- 6,341,503			
Treasure	- 281,053	A PARK TO THE		
Exports	2,645,886			
	2,056,294	11,324,733	10.000	0.051.005
Re-Exports		369,261	10,955,475	3,651,825
TIENTSIN.				
mports	- 16,665,086			
Treasure	201,698			
Exports	2,687,962			
Treasure -	- 6,175,788	25,730,534		
Re-Exports		- 81,629	25,648,905	8,549,635

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

Hong Kong.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1866-continued.

Port.	Value in Taels.	_	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
Newchwang.				
Imports	2,346,767			
Treasure	181,600			
Exports	1,919,930			
Treasure		4,448,297		
Re-Exports		22,360	4,425,937	1,475,312
Total	359,495,455		299,929,541	99,976,513

SUMMARY.

Imports Treasure Exports Treasure	- Taels 172,462,136 - ,, 40,332,530 - ,, 102,923,034 - ,, 43,777,755	Sterling £57,487,378 ,, 13,444,177 ,, 34,307,678 ,, 14,592,585
Total - / -	- Taels 359,495,455	" £119,831,818
	Or,	
Imports and Exports Treasure	- Taels 275,385,170 - ,, 84,110,285	Sterling £91,795,056 ,, 28,036,762
Total	- Taels 359,495,455	" £119,831,818

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1866 is in taels 359,495,455*l.*, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 119,831,818*l.*, including the re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade	Taels 359,495,455	Sterling £119,831,81	
Deduct Re-Exports	,, 59,565,914	,. 19,855,30	
Total	Taels 299,929,541	" £99,976,513	

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1866 is, in taels, 299,929,541, or, in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 99,976,513L.

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1866 amounted to the sum of taels 8,685,629, or, in sterling, 2,895,209L, which, if added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 368,181,084, or, in sterling, 122,727,027L.

In round numbers the foreign trade with China in the year 1866 may be taken at 120,000,000L sterling.

sterling.

Total of the Returns of 1864, 1865, and 1866.

1864 1865 1866	- Tael	s 263,761,556 304,260,311 359,495,455	. 10	37,920,518 01,420,104 19,831,818	314	Increa	se Ta	els 40,4 55,2	98,755 35,144	£13,499,586 18,411,714
Total	Taels	s 927,517,322	£30	9,172,440						
					Or,					
	Increase	of 1865 over	1864			-	-		86 <u>69</u> pe	
	Increase	of 1866 over	1865	-	-			-	84 <u>63</u> pe	er cent.
							(Signed) T	B. ROBERTSON.

LABUAN.

LABITAN.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Acting Governor to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 23.)

My LORD DUKE, Labuan, June 25, 1867. I HAVE the honour to forward the returns for the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year exceeded that collected during 1865 by 722l. 18s. 4d., and

amounted to 3,913*l*. 0s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$.

This improvement was caused chiefly by an increased sale of land and redemption of quitrents, and by the company which lease the coal mines having paid the sum of 4771. 6s. 6d. for rent under an arrangement which was not in force in previous years.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was 6,959l. 19s. 8d., being 524l. 9s. 10d. less than that of 1865. There was 892l. 18s. 9d. less expended on public works and roads than in the preceding year, but on the other hand the expenditure on account of police was considerably increased in order to admit of a larger force being stationed in the vicinity of the coal mines.

The only other unusual item of expenditure was 671. for the purchase of a fireproof

safe for the better security of the books and papers of the Treasury.

Legislature.

Four Ordinances were passed during the year.

Ordinance No. 1, entitled "An Ordinance further regulating and defining the powers "of the General Court of Labuan in criminal cases," was passed to assimilate the punishment of criminals tried before the General Court of the Colony to that prescribed by the laws of England, but reserved the power to flog in addition to such punishment. This Ordinance was subsequently repealed by Ordinance No. 4 of 1866.

Ordinance No. 2, entitled "An Ordinance making provision for levying in Labuan the " tolls in respect of the light vessel upon Little Basses Rock in the Colony of Ceylon,

" and regulating the collection thereof."
Ordinance No. 3, entitled "An Ordinance regulating the manufacture, importation,
" exportation, and sale of arms and ammunition."

The intention of this Ordinance is to prevent, if possible, the supply of arms and

ammunition to the pirates of the neighbouring seas.

Ordinance No. 4, entitled "An Ordinance further regulating and defining the powers " of the General Court of Labuan in criminal cases," was passed to repeal Ordinance No. 1, Her Majesty's assent having been refused to it on account of the crimes for which flogging might be awarded in addition to any other sentence not having been specified. These are by Ordinance No. 4 defined to be burglary, robbery, setting fire to a dwelling house, larceny of an aggravated character or after two previous convictions, rape, and sodomy.

Population.

The population was increased by 483, and amounted at the end of the year to 3,828 persons exclusive of the military and convicts.

This increase arose from political troubles in the neighbouring state of Burnai having forced a number of Kadayans from that country to take refuge in Labuan.

Ecclesiastical.

A church dedicated to the Holy Saviour was completed and consecrated during the year. The cost was defrayed by a grant from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge of 200l., 100l. contributed by Government, and about 417l. by Governor Edwardes, the Lord Bishop of Labuan, and the public.

LABUAN.

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Imports.

The total value of imports for the year amounted to 109,134l. 12s. 4d. In 1865 it was returned as 104,190l. 8s. 2d.

Exports.

These were valued in 1866 at 58,293l. 10s., against 58,536l. 10s. 6d. in the preceding year.

Shipping.

Two steam ships under the auspices of the coal company called regularly once a month on their voyages to and from Singapore and China $vi\hat{a}$ Manilla, to the great convenience of the residents in the Colony.

Mines

The coal mines leased to the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company, "Limited," produced 11,317 tons of coal, being a slight decrease in quantity as compared with

the yield of 1865, which was 11,830 tons.

A change in the management took place in the month of May, with apparent advantage to the works, but the company's agents in Singapore having failed in October, financial embarrassments ensued, and put a stop to all improvement about the end of the year.

Gaols and Prisons.

Seven of the convicts transported to this place from Hong Kong were released on tickets of leave. These men, as well as those previously enlarged in the same manner, have easily found the means of subsistence, and their conduct has been satisfactory.

Health.

The health of the Colony during the year was moderately good for Labuan, but I regret to say that two out of the four European female inhabitants died, and his Excellency the Governor left the Colony at the end of November to return to England on account of his health.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

HUGH LOW, Acting Governor,

&c. &c. &c

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.
No. 4.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 4.

[Not received.]

MAURITIUS.

MAURITIUS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

My Lord Duke, Mauritius, 23d September 1867.

Owing to the extent to which the clerks in every department of the public service have suffered and still continue to suffer from the epidemic fever which has prevailed in this Colony since the beginning of the present year, the Blue Book returns

for 1866 have only just reached my hands.

2. I shall not detain them for any lengthened report, as they have already lost somewhat of their interest by the delay, and by the startling events which have occurred in the interim. It is not difficult indeed to discern in them, by the light of subsequent experience, the germs of the terrible disasters which have since reached their climax!

3. Though the prospects of the Colony at the opening of the year appeared brighter than they had been during the unfavourable seasons of 1864 and 1865, they grew gradually gloomy as the scarcity of rice in Bengal raised that article to a famine price in this Island, and the long-continued drought here reduced the sugar crop to two thirds of what had been expected by the platers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. These and other circumstances affected the finances in more ways than one, and to so serious an extent as to occasion a deficit of sixty thousand pounds on the year's transactions.

5. Rice forming the staple food of the great bulk of the population, those not under engagement on sugar estates, and not receiving rations, therefore, from the planters, had little surplus of their earnings to expend on the purchase of other dutiable articles. The Customs revenue thus fell off, whilst the sale of colonial spirits declined to an extent which caused a deficiency in that branch of the internal revenue of upwards of

ten thousand pounds.

- 6. These decreases, however, are nearly counterbalanced in the returns as forwarded, by the additional income of 35,311*l*. accruing from the second line of railway, which had been opened for traffic towards the close of the previous year, so that the receipts of 1866 apparently only fell short of those of 1865 by 7,150*l*.; but as, on the other hand, the expenditure was increased by 32,800*l*. by the additional amount required for the railway working department, this augmentation of the receipts was merely nominal. Without this addition, the expenditure of 1866, notwithstanding a further addition of 6,080*l*. for interest on the railway loan, was, on the whole, a few hundred pounds less than that of 1865.
- 7. It will give a clear idea of the position of the colonial finances to separate all items connected with the railway undertaking from the accounts. The revenue, exclusive of railway traffic, actually amounted to 562,323l. The expenditure, exclusive of the working department and the interest and sinking fund on the railway loan, was 566,730l., showing an excess of 4,407l.

But it must be borne in mind that an outlay of 21,000*l*. from accumulated balances had been authorized in the estimates on certain buildings, of which 5,277*l*. was actually appear and included in the accounts.

spent, and included in the accounts.

8. The railway account, on the other hand, stands thus:

Traffic receipts - - £77,253. Working expenses - - 63,947.

Profit on working - £13,306.

Against which has to be set, for sinking fund and interest on the loan, 69,371*l.*, showing a loss by the undertaking of 56,065*l.*, more than equal to the entire deficiency of the year, the sum taken from balances excluded.

MAURITIUS.

9. When the estimates for the year were voted, it was anticipated that the traffic receipts would prove some 5,000*l*. higher, and the working expenses some 12,000*l*. less, whilst the extra Customs duties specially voted in 1863 towards paying the interest and sinking fund were relied on to augment the ordinary revenue more than enough to make good the difference.

10. Unfortunately, as already stated, the famine and short crop diminished both ordinary revenue and special duties, whilst the latter sensibly reduced the railway

returns.

11. The deficit, together with a decrease of 9,000*l*. on deposits, was met, as shown by the treasurer's statements of assets and liabilities, by payments from the colonial treasury, without trenching on funds invested at home, the balance of cash, which had been 124,918*l*. 3s. on the 1st January 1866, being reduced to 55,477*l*. 13s. 9d. by the end of the year.

Local Revenues.

12. Not having a reserve to fall back upon, the municipality of Port Louis had recourse again to an increase of its debt by the emission of debentures to the value of 28,280l. Of this amount, however, 7,260l. was employed to reimburse the holders of debentures of a former issue, and 10,670l. in liquidation of arrears of expenditure of 1865, so that the net addition to the liabilities of the town pertaining to the year was about 10,000l.

13. The introduction of a system of underground sewerage, as well as of other sanitary reforms which had been long needed, was of course out of the question in such a state

of things.

14. I have already explained in my reply to the Earl of Carnarvon's comments on the remarks made on this head in my Blue Book Despatch of last year, why, in my opinion, the suppression of the municipality, as proposed by his lordship, is not an expedient remedy for these evils. I still hope, and I am encouraged in doing so by the generous efforts made during the recent epidemic, that there is sufficient energy and aptitude for self-government in the leading citizens of Port Louis to avert any necessity for so retrograde a step; but I must at the same time admit that if the terrible lessons which overcrowding and malaria have done the utmost to inculcate do not suffice to stir the town council up to prompt and united action for the safety of themselves and their families, there will be no alternative but to try the experiment of a paid board of municipal commissioners, which appears to be working so satisfactorily in the Great Indian capitals.

Military Expenditure.

15. A further diminution is stated in the cost of the garrison, which is now set down at 115,000l. The contribution of 45,000l. out of this amount exacted from the Colony is felt be a very heavy drain on its resources, as I have already had the honour, at the instance of the Legislative Council, to submit to Her Majesty's Government.

16. Passing over minor matters on which I have in previous years reported, I proceed to the Custom House Returns, exhibiting the trade of the Colony throughout the year.

Imports and Exports.

17. The valuation of articles imported is 2,227,093l., or, excluding specie, 2,048,539l., which is 85,739l. above that of the preceding year. This is due, not to increase in quantity, but solely to the high price of bread stuffs, rice showing an increase of 43,226l., dholl and gram of 15,000l., whilst maize, wheat, and wheaten flour together make up

48,000l. more, or a total increase of 106,000l.

There can be no doubt, however, that these calculations, which are probably regarded at the Custom House as of little consequence, the trifling duty imposed being leviable per bag, are very far below the mark, and that the excess of outlay for the importation of food must have been at least five times this amount; thus, for instance, the value of 856,385 bags of rice from continental India is set down at only 467,517l. sterling, or less than three dollars per bag, whilst it was selling here for many weeks at seven or eight dollars, and cannot have averaged less than six throughout the year.

18. The exports, minus specie, are valued at 2,501,805l., or 127,714l. less than those of last year. For the reason above assigned, however, they must have fallen short of the

real value of the imports, instead of surpassing them by nearly half a million.

19. The proportions in which the trade of the Colony was carried on with different countries showed considerable variation. The mother country, which had long ceded to

India the first place as to imports, has fallen below Australia in regard to exports, the MAURITIUS. latter taking to the value of 971,101l., the former 718,567l. India stands third at 453,304l., so that, after allowing for the Cape and other British possessions, little more than a seventh of the products went to foreign countries. Among these it is satisfactory to see that the value of the exports to Madagascar slightly increased, though still under 50,000l., whilst those to the neighbouring island of Réunion rose from 30,000l. to 60,000%.

20. The falling off in the trade with Great Britain is mainly due, there can be no doubt, to the effects of the discriminating duties still levied on sugar, and its extent henceforth will be measured solely by the capabilities of Australia and India to consume

the finer descriptions of Mauritius produce.

These two markets together took 70,000 tons out of the 109,000 exported in 1866; whilst 38,000 tons of the inferior descriptions were shipped to the United Kingdom.

21. One curious effect of this state of things was exhibited in a recent debate in the Chamber of Agriculture; the creation, namely, as in the West Indies, of a party who desire to see the principle of discriminating duties maintained, on the ground that as an outlet for all the fine sugars of the Colony has been secured, whilst only low qualities go to England, and pay the lowest scale of duty, an equalization of the rates now levied in that country, which range from 8s. 4d. to 12s. 10d., would be equivalent to 2s. 4d. per cent. additional, to the disadvantage of the Mauritius producer in his competition with

22. On the assumption that the Australian Colonies neither become sugar producers themselves nor alter their tariffs, this may be a correct view of the case; but, as to the first point, Queensland is already making essays in the cultivation of the cane, whilst the still more formidable beet root is attracting attention in Victoria, where it would thrive admirably; and as to the second, though the refiners are few, and of little influence, protection to native industry is fast becoming a favourite cry with the masses, and if farmers take to growing sugar they will have as much right to claim it as those growing corn.

Shipping.

23. The tonnage of vessels entered at Port Louis was somewhat larger, that of vessels cleared somewhat smaller, than in the previous year. In both the average was about 300,000, more than two thirds being British or colonial.

Immigration.

24. The introduction of emigrants from India was not on a scale to add much to the number of vessels arriving, the expense of supporting labourers being too great to encourage the planters to send in requisitions. The emigration was:-

From Calcutta ,, Madras -	-	Males. 1,622 2,080	Females. 630 1,264
		3,702	1.894

Total 5,596, of which, as will be perceived, more than a third were women.

25. The interesting report of the Protector is as usual annexed, but as I have called Encl. No. 1. attention to it in a previous communication, I shall not here allude further to its not printed. contents than to repeat that they will be found satisfactory.

Population.

26. The usual statement of births, deaths, and marriages, as compiled from the returns of the officers of Civil Status throughout the Island, is appended,* but I regret that I *Not printed. cannot accompany it, as I have of late years done, with critical comments on the vital statistics of each particular district, as the General Sanitary Inspector was attacked by the epidemic before he had sent in his annual report for 1866, and did not sufficiently recover his health previous to his departure on leave of absence, to admit of his completing it.

27. It appears to me more than ever desirable that such statistics should be promptly and correctly compiled, and that for this purpose the powers and functions of the Registrar General in England should be conferred on the General Sanitary Inspector here. This might be effected without additional expense, by taking advantage of the first opportunity to abolish the appointment of Chief Officer of the Civil Status in Port Louis, who now receives 500l. per annum besides his fees. His peculiar duties, of which the

MAURITIUS. principal is to attend at the celebration of marriages under the French code, being performed by the head clerk, who, with the rest of the staff, would be under the superintendence of the new Registrar General.

28. Taken as a whole, there was nothing in the population returns of 1866 to awaken anxiety as to the future. The deaths amounted to 12,347, 428 fewer than in 1865; the births were 11,067, or 71 fewer. The decrease, therefore, owing to the unequal division of the sexes among the Indian immigrants, was 357 less than in the previous year.

29. A closer scrutiny, no doubt, shows that special causes, predisposing to disease, must already have been at work in some of the leeward districts, the reduction in the aggregate mortality being due to the unusual healthiness of the windward side of the Island, which had even then begun to manifest itself. Thus the deaths in Black River district, when the epidemic had broken out, exceeded those of 1865 by 87, or 15 per cent.; in Port Louis by 235, or $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; but the influence seemed to have yet spread no further, the mortality of the next district, Pamplemousses, remaining as nearly as might be the same.

30. The total resident population on 31st December last is estimated, on the basis of the census of 1861 and subsequent alterations recorded, at 341,165, but I am inclined to believe this to be lower than the reality, as the additions by immigration are confined to those from India returned by the Protector; whilst it will be seen, for example, from the return of aliens, that no less then 1,623 Chinese arrived at their own expense, and

were registered by the police within the year.

Education.

Encl. No. 2. not printed.

31. The annual report of the Superintendent of Government Schools is enclosed. It is an able and interesting document, and contains some curious comparisons between the number of failures in the National Schools of England and the Government Schools of Mauritius, under examinations conducted with the classification laid down in the "Re-

vised Code," which has recently been adopted here on Mr. Browne's recommendation.

32. It appears that whilst the ratio of failures both in reading and writing was a little higher in Mauritius, 12:72 per cent. to 11:87 in the first and 15:05 to 13:98 in the second, it was wonderfully lower in arithmetic, namely, 12:35 per cent. to 23:69 per cent. at home; and though this is to some extent explained by the supposition that many pupils in advance of the prescribed tests for standard three were presented under that instead of the supplementary standard, the superiority is too marked to be altogether thus accounted for. Indeed, few who have been in the habit of witnessing the wonderful quickness of lads, both of Indian and African extraction, in answering questions in mental arithmetic, can be surprised at the result.

33. Up to the close of the year, nothing could have been more satisfactory than the progress both of schools and scholars, the figures then showing an addition of nine to the Government and one to the assisted denominational schools, bringing the total up to 107, of which 41 are exclusively Indian; whilst as to scholars, those in the Government schools had increased by 589, and those of the denominational by 184, up to the 31st December 1865; making the total on the rolls 6,770, the increase being attributable in

a great degree to the Indian element.

35. Mr. Browne gives a favourable account of his inspections of the Indian Orphan Asylum at Powder Mills, and of the Reformatory School at Grand River, and states

some remarkable facts as to the inmates of the latter.

Encl. No. 3. not printed.

36. The reports of the Manager of the Savings' Bank and of the Chairman of the Central Poor Relief Committee are also forwarded, as they throw a good deal of light Encl. No. 4. on the general condition of the labouring population. Alterations in the poor law are suggested, and the whole system on which it is founded has been referred by me to a committee for report, but the points at issue relate to the mode of levying and collecting the poor rates, and not to any difficulty in regard to the extent of pauperism, the number of paupers, exclusive of those in Port Louis, provided for by the municipality, amounting only to 744, the majority of whom belong to the ex-apprentice class. Some better provision, however, for Indian immigrants who have become incapable of labour, is undoubtedly wanting, and the Protector has a scheme for the establishment of a central almshouse under consideration.

Gaols and Prisons.

37. The Procureur General being absent on leave, it has devolved on his substitute, Mr. Sholto Douglas, to send in the usual reports on the criminal statistics of the year. I am sorry to say to say that they are of an extremely unsatisfactory tenor, the

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symptoms of improvement that manifested themselves in 1865 having vanished, and MAURITIUS. matters being generally worse than in 1864.

38. The inadequacy of the prison accommodation throughout the Colony has thus again become most apparent, the partial relief afforded by the opening of the Vagrant Depôt in that year having ceased to produce any marked effect, either in Port Louis or Your Grace having called my attention specially to the subject, I will not enter on it further here than to say that I have for some time past contemplated the establishment of a second Vagrant Depôt, as soon as a suitable building can be found, and that the Surveyor General has been directed to press forward the erection of the new General Penitentiary as fast as the means at his disposal will permit.

39. I beg, however, particularly to point out, that, owing to the prisoners being for the most part employed during the daytime outside the walls of the gaols, many of them, moreover, sleeping in the camps established by the Public Works Department, the overcrowding is not so great as might be supposed, whilst its effects are not appreciably

injurious.

40. It will be seen from the report of the Chief Medical Officer on the sanitary state of the district prisons, which is included as usual among the miscellaneous returns, that, although the mortality was somewhat larger than in the previous year, it amounted in the whole to but 65, out of a total of 18,425 prisoners, or 3.5 per 1,000 on the admissions.

Information as to the daily average being omitted, I cannot state the ratio in that point of view as respects the country; but with regard to Port Louis gaol, it may be gathered from Mr. Douglas' returns; and though there also the mortality was considerably in excess of the years immediately preceding, it will be found, even according to

this test, not higher than the death rate among the general population of the city.

41. The advance of crime, as pourtrayed in the statistics now forwarded, is most alarming, and, I may add, inexplicable. The number of persons prosecuted at the assizes rose from 131 to 236, the increase being due principally to murders and robberies! The prosecutions for the former (including attempts) included 21 cases, implicating 47 prisoners, 12 of whom, however, were tried for one offence. Nine of these cases are attributed by the Acting Procureur General to jealousy; the rest to a variety of motives, Indians being the perpetrators in the proportion of eight to one.

42. Of the prisoners so tried eight only were sentenced to death, and of these two were executed. Mr. Douglas adverts to the change in the mode of carrying out capital punishment which is advocated by those best acquainted with the Indian character; and I can only for my part express a hope, that if the substitution of the punishment of decapitation for that of hanging is likely to have the deterrent effect anticipated, the

experiment may at least be allowed to have a trial for a year or two.

43. Gang robberies, though not nearly so rife as in 1863 and 1864, have again taken an unaccountable start, the number of cases having been 14, or just double that of 1865, whilst the number of persons tried for participation in them was 79, or more than treble, giving an average of about five to each crime, and showing that as these bands of midnight marauders usually consist, as mentioned by Mr. Douglas, of from 20 to 50, how exceedingly difficult it is to discern and identify the offenders.

44. When it is added, that the number of larcenies, and of burglaries unaccompanied by personal violence, have also considerably increased, it must be owned that the maintenance of better order amidst the mixed races and tribes from every part of Hindostan which comprise the "old immigrant" population of this Colony, is a problem which demands the immediate and earnest consideration of the Executive and the Legislature.

45. The Indians, after completing their five years of industrial residence on a sugar estate, form indeed an agglomeration of bands under their respective sirdars or chiefs, rather than a regularly constituted society. Exempt from the influences of caste and the ties of relationship, unconscious of religious or moral obligations, especially where men of a different origin and language are concerned, the members of these bands, though often occupying respectable positions, as landowners or shopkeepers, seldom seem withheld by scruples from taking their share in plundering excursions after dark, or assisting in secreting stolen property. Thus the Madrassees notably prey everywhere on their Bengalee neighbours, who, in turn, rob other weaker parties of settlers in the vicinity, so that life and property, despite all the efforts of the police, have for the last five or six years become less and less secure.

46. Another evil which results from this agglomeration of bands is the overcrowding of the Indian villages, which have sprung up all over the country, the filth and dirt of which have mainly contributed, if not to engender, at least to intensify the recent frightful epidemic. There can be little doubt, indeed, that too entire and uncontrolled liberty

MAURITIUS. has been accorded to these "old immigrants," and that, as commonly happens with men

unaccustomed to its enjoyment, it is fast degenerating into licence.

47. The obvious remedy for this seems to be, that the Government shall take steps for registering the dwelling places and occupations of all immigrants who have completed their industrial residence, and shall establish some sort of superintendence over their villages which will admit of the enforcement of stringent sanitary regulations. I am happy to be able to add, that a draft Ordinance having in view these objects has been already framed by the Acting Procureur General, and laid by me before the Council of Government.

Legislation.

Encl. No. 6.

48. The number of Ordinances passed during the year amounted to thirty-two. A description of the provisions of the most important of them will be found in the accompanying report from the Procureur General. The first to which he alludes, the Ordinance to amend the Law on Public Health, though introduced early in the year, did not, unfortunately, pass till the first November; and so little was the coming pestilence then foreseen by any one, that the vast extension of the powers of the General Board which it confers was postponed till the 1st May 1867.

49. Mr. Dickson likewise notices the amendment of the Criminal Law, by a closer assimilation to that of England in regard to outrages upon young persons, and by a still

more necessary reform in the mode of preparation of the jury lists.

50. A change of great moment in the law of property was likewise effected by the last Ordinance of a few lines only passed in 1866, to abolish what are called judicial mortgages, in other words, the right given by the Code Napoléon to any holder of a judgment for debt of inscribing it over all the debtor's real estate as a preferential security, a right which occasioned needless and vexatious expenses, and gave rise to great abuses.

General Remarks.

51. For the last two years, in concluding my Blue Book Despatches, I have been driven to express a hope that I should be able to report a more flourishing state of affairs in my next. It will be seen, from the returns now forwarded, that this hope has not yet been realised, nor can I, in the face of the still severe ordeal through which the

Colony is now passing, venture to repeat it.

52. Each successive season since that of 1862-63 has been one of grievous disappointment to the planters, whose industry furnishes that great staple on the value of which the prosperity of every class in the community depends, and though neither the falling off in the quantity of sugar exported during 1865, about 13,000 tons less than 1864, nor the reduction in value, 348,458L, according to the Customs, which seem rather low valuations, are in themselves of any great consequence, it must be borne in mind that the crop was expected to realise at least another million sterling, and that the dry weather, and disease in the canes, which reduced it by a third, increased rather than diminished the planter's expenditure.

53. It is alarming, therefore, to think what the effect of a worse crop and lower prices, now certain, will prove by the close of the present year. I will content myself with observing, as I did in forwarding my first Blue Book Report from this Colony, when all seemed fair and flourishing, though I could not even then shut my eyes to the dangers run by a country dependent on a single staple, and that too produced by an alien population, "that, notwithstanding this dark side to the picture, I regard the position of "Mauritius as sound in the main, and am sanguine that it will pass through any trials "that may be in store, if not unscathed, at least without serious permanent injury."

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

Enclosure in No. 5.

MAURITIUS.

Acting Procureur and Advocate General's Report on Crime.

The annexed table, showing the number of crimes and of persons prosecuted at the Court of Assize before a judge and jury from 1862 to 1866 inclusive, exhibits a very considerable increase on the former years, upwards of 100 persons having been brought to trial in 1866 in excess of 1865. Thus:—

Annexure A.

Year.	No. of Cases prosecuted.	No. of Persons prosecuted.	
1865 1866	64 101	131 236	

This increase appears to be distributed under almost every head of offence, but principally in crimes of murder and attempt to murder, the number of which have doubled since 1864 and preceding years, and is one third more than in 1865.

Table of the cases of murder and attempt to murder prosecuted from 1862 to 1866:-

Year.		No. of Cases prosecuted.	No. of Persons prosecuted.
1862	13.	10	15
1863		9	20
1864	123	10	13
1865		14	33
1866		21	47

2. Eight persons have, during the past year, been sentenced to death, two of whom were executed, and six reprieved.

3. The great increase in numbers noticeable in 1865 and 1866 is partially to be accounted for from the fact that 13 Indians were tried and convicted in 1865 for the murder of their master, and 12 were also placed on their trial in 1866 for an attempt at a similar crime.

4. The greater proportion of cases of homicide are committed by the Indian population. Thus:—The number of cases of murder, attempt to murder, and manslaughter, by Indians and creoles, or natives of other countries, during 1866, is as follows:—

		No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	
Creoles, &c.		5	6	
Indians -	-	21	48	

Of the Indian cases of murder and manslaughter, the motive can be traced, in the greater proportion of cases, to jealousy and quarrels about women, as is shown by the following table:—

Jealousy or Quarrels about Women.	Robbery.	Revenge.	Drunken Quarrels.	Other Motives.	Total.	
9	3	4	3	1*	20†	

* Accused was a female.

† One found insane.

5. The increase on the crimes of wilful bloodshedding among the Indian population, and the proposed alteration in the mode of carrying out capital punishment, has been already brought under the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, by the Blue Book report on crime for 1865, and by Mr. Dickson's letter of the 27th October 1865, which formed an enclosure to the Governor's Despatch noted in the margin relative to the substitution of decapitation for hanging, and is also further reported on (in reply to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham's Despatch No. 2. of 14th March 1867) by my report on Ordinance 4. of 1867.

MAURITIUS.

6. The crime of rape and indecent assaults (called by our law "attempt on chastity") have much increased during the past years, and gave rise to the passing of Ordinance No. 12. of 1866. A full report by the Procureur General (Report No. 298 of 16th August 1866) of the causes which led to the alteration of the law has been transmitted to the Secretary of State.

Of the seven cases of rape brought to trial, five occurred before the alteration of the law was effected (13th July 1866), there is therefore grounds of belief that the law as at present revised will succeed

in checking the further development of this offence.

7. It is to be regretted that the hope inspired in 1865, that the robberies committed by gangs of Indians by night were diminishing, has not been realized. Although the cases of this nature in 1866 do not reach the number of those tried in 1863 or 1864, yet they double those of 1865, thus:—

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.
	5	24
1862 1863	16	106
1864	19	111
1864 1865	7	24
1866	14	79

This class of offences is of a very serious nature, and one difficult of detection. It is confined almost, if not entirely, to attacks made by Indians (principally by Madras men) on those of their own nation, usually old and industrious Indians, who are known or supposed to have saved money, and to have secreted it in their residence.

- 8. The "modus operandi" of these gangs of thieves is usually the same. Numbers varying from 20 to 50 meet by night in the neighbourhood of the Indian hut destined to be plundered. They are armed with stout sticks, and several carry lighted torches. Entrance is effected in breaking by main force the outside door, the inmates are beaten till they are nearly or quite senseless, are bound hand and foot to a post, and the hut or shop ransacked of its contents. Frequently great cruelty is inflicted on the inmates to force a confession from them where the money has been buried or secreted. Having obtained their object, the thieves disperse in different directions, and the stolen property is quickly and surely disposed of.
- 9. The number of larcenies by servants, robberies by means of breaking, without the aggravated circumstances above mentioned, as well as the number of persons prosecuted as receivers, have considerably increased. This circumstance is in great measure to be accounted for from the fact that it has been considered advisable to prosecute in the higher court many old and confirmed thieves, who have repeatedly been convicted for larcenies in the minor criminal courts of justice in the Island.
- 10. The cases of forgery and embezzlement do not exceed the average of former years, and, with one exception, (by which the Oriental Bank Corporation were swindled of nearly 2,000*l*.,) these crimes were committed for very small amounts.
- 11. Arson, a crime peculiarly rife among the Indian population, is extremely difficult of detection. The cases are, however, chiefly confined to the fire-raising of Indian huts, through some quarrels with neighbours of the same class. The cases prosecuted in 1866 are the same in number as 1865, and show a slight decrease on the two previous years.

17th June 1867.

(Signed) Sholto James Douglas, Acting Procureur and Advocate General.

		1	862.				1	863.				1	864.				1	865.				1	1866.		
	Prose			d.	d of lesser	Pros		1		d of lesser	Prose				ed of lesser	Pros		d.	ed.	ed of lesser	Pros	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	od.	ed.	ed of lesser
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons convicted Crime.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted	No. of Persons convicted Crime.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted	No. of Persons convicted Crime.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons convicted Crime.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Persons acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons convicted Crime.
Murder (or attempt to murder) Manslaughter Wounds and blows causing death Do. causing sickness Involuntary homicide - Poisoning (not fatal) for purposes of larceny Rape and attempt to rape Bigamy Unnatural crimes Perjury and subornation - Placing stones on railway by gangs of burglars by night with violence to persons on highway with violence - without violence, domestic larceny, &c., &c. Receiving stolen property Embezzlement Forgery Swindling, extortion, &c. Malicious damage to property Arson	10 6 2 2 - 2 - 2 1 - 5 - 1 3 - 6	15 6 2 2 - 2 2 2 2 2 - 3 - 1 3 - 6 6 1 3 - 1 6 1 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4 2 1 ——————————————————————————————————	15 - 12 - 15 - 2 - 12 - - 2 - - 3	7 2	9 5 5 5 5 5	20 19 11 9 - 8 - 4 1 - 106 3 3 - 3 1 - 11	6 — 2 — 2 — 38 1 2 — 1 1 — 4	2 1 9 3 — 6 — 2 1 — 6 7 2 1 — 7	12 18 2 ————————————————————————————————	10 1 4 3 - 1 2 1 2 1 1 1 1 9 5 2 - 4 5 2 - 9	13 1 4 6 -1 3 1 2 2 1 111 26 2 -4 6 2 -1 111	5 1 1 2 — 1 1 1 1 2 — 37 13 — 2 1 1 — 8	5 3 4 -1 2 -1 1 64 13 2 -2 5 2 -3	3	14 2 3 1 3 2 2 2 - - - 7 3 8 4 1 6 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	33 2 5 -1 7 2 2 24 18 12 6 1 10 -1 7	1 — 1 4 1 — 1 1 — 1 2 4 3 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 — 3 —	27 2 5 3 1 1 1 - 12 14 9 3 3 1 7 - 1 4	5*	5 6 3 2 1 7 - 2 - 1 14 1 13 8 3 6 - 1 7	47 7 6 8 2 1 7 4 1 26 27 3 8 1 8 2 1 8 2 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1	14 2 2 2 2 2 2 - 2 - 1 30 - 6 15 2 - 1 4	8 2 4 6 6 — 1 5 — 2 — 49 1 20 12 1 8 — 4	24** 3
Total	41	68	22	36	10	64	199	63	103	33	72	196	75	108	3	64	131	36	90	5	101	236	85	123	27

^{*} One person found insane, 1865-66.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

MAURITIUS.

Acting Procureur and Advocate General's Report on Prisons.

No additions or changes have been made during the past year in the number of prisons in the Colony.

Port Louis gaol continues to be the prison for convicts, for those sentenced by the magistrates of the civil and criminal sides of the district court of Port Louis, by the police and marine magistrates, and temporally for military prisoners discharged from the army with ignominy, and sentenced to penal servitude, and it is also the place of detention for untried prisoners.

The district gaols contain prisoners under the sentences of the district and stipendiary magistrate of each respective district, except Moka, whose prisoners undergo imprisonment in the Plaines Wilhems gaol, the two districts being, for prison purposes, united.

The Vagrant Depôt at Grand River receives all vagrants sentenced by the stipendiary magistrate of Port Louis, and is under the control and management of the police department.

The following are the chief statistics of the Port Louis prisons for the year 1866:

1. Number of persons remaining on 31st December 1865

Number of prisoners entered in prison during the year 1866

5,9 593 5,223 Total number on the prison books in 1866 -

Number of prisoners discharged from prison during the year 1866 5,178

Number of prisoners remaining on prison books on 31st December 1866 - 738

 The committals in 1866 exceeded those in 1865 by 79.
 The following is a statement of the several countries to which the prisoners committed belonged, viz.:-

English	-	-		-		254
Irish -			_			128
Scotch -		()	_			57
Dutch -				_		. 9
French	-	_		_		74
American	-		_			30
German					De Harr	8
Hanoverian			_			1
Peruvian -		Val.				1
New Brunswic	kers					1
Malay -	KCIS _					1
Swedes						8
Norwegian	1700	-		-		2
Austrian			-			8
Arabian -		-		-	178 6	2
Creoles of Mau	-				-	
Madagas as a Mad	ritius	-		-	-	910
Madagascar			-		_	65
Mozambique	-	-		-	***	66
Chinese	-		-		-	16
West Indies	-	-		-	-	4
Madrasees	-		-		7- 11- X-	2,177
Bombayees	-	-		-	-	175
Bengalees	-		-		-	1,226
					-	
						5,223
					-	-

4. The following table shows the number of prisoners committed in 1865 and 1866 by the various criminal and civil courts, whose prisoners were received in the Port Louis prisons, as also the increase and decrease in the committals on a comparison of these two years:

	Stipen-	Police	District Court.		Superio	r Court.	Naval			
	diary Magis- trate.	Magis- trate.	Merchant Shipping Act.	Civil Side.	Criminal Side:	Civil Side.	Criminal Side.	and Military Prisoners.	Remanded for Trial.	Total.
1865	192	2,720	90	50	1,709	23	97	3	260	5,144
1866	53	2,479	72	57	2,020	18	115	0	409	5,223
Decrease	139	241	18			5	1522	3		
Increase		_	_	7	311	_	18		149	79

5. The committals by the police magistrate were fewer by 241 than in 1865.

The following is a return showing the committals by the police magistrate for drunkenness, disorders, and contraventions of municipal regulations, within the town boundaries, since 1862, viz.:-In 1862 there were 2,365 committals.

,, 1863 1,800 3,048 - 99 99 1864 99 99 99 2,720 1865 99 99 1866 2,479 99

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

6. The committals for offences by seamen under the Merchant Shipping Act have been as follows MAURITIUS. since 1862, viz.:—

In 1862 there were 159 committals., 1863 , 82 ,, 1864 ,, 102 ,, 1865 ,, 90 ,, 1866 ,, 72 ,,

These numbers show a reduction of 18 in the committals in 1866 as compared with those in 1865.

7. There was an increase of 7 in the committals of fraudulent debtors in 1866 as compared with those in 1865.

The following is a table of the committals of this class of prisoners since 1862, viz.:-

In 1862 there were 103 committals.
, 1863 , 103 ,,
, 1864 ,, 59 ,,
, 1865 ,, 50 ,,
, 1866 ,, 57 ,,

8. The following is a return of the committals by the district magistrate on the criminal side of the district court, and also the more serious offences for which the committals were made, since 1862, viz.:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Larceny	1,316	1,292	1,498	1,232	1,572
Assault	311	291	215	210	174
Licence contravention	40	31	36	14	11
In possession of gandia and opium	51	42	85	44	29
Receiving stolen goods	11	15	21	15	86
Adultery	20	6	10	7	8
Enticing away married women -	7	2	4		6
Other petty offences	179	429	338	187	134
Total	1,946	2,108	2,207	1,709	2,020

This return shows an increase of 301 in the number of committals in 1866 as compared with 1865. It is to be remarked that the proportion of larcenies to the total committals by the district courts increase year by year (except 1863) since 1861, as shewn by the following, viz.:—

The committals for larceny in 1862 were 67.62 per cent. of the total committals.

1863 61.2999 99 99 67.85 1864 ,, ,, 1865 72.08 39 99 " 99 77.82 1866

An increase of 5.74 per cent. in 1866 as compared with 1865.

9. The juvenile offenders when committed to these prisons are now soon after removed to the reformatory lately established at Powder Mills under the provisions of Ordinance No. 1. of 1867.

10. The number of committals for debt since 1002 are as follows, viz.:-

In 1862 there were 48 committals.
,, 1863 ,, 22 ,,
,, 1864 ,, 54 ,,
,, 1865 ,, 23 ,,
,, 1866 ,, 18 ,,

A reduction of 5 as compared with 1865.

11. The total numbers of untried prisoners who occupied the detention house since 1862 were—

In 1862 - - 69
,, 1863 - - 189
,, 1864 - - 339
,, 1865 - - 260
,, 1866 - - 409

Or an increase of 149 as compared with the year 1865.

- 12. The statistics in the criminal cases which amount to felonies will be found in the chapter on crime.
- 13. There were during the year 1866 no committals of naval or military prisoners under sentences of courts martial.

The committals of such prisoners were—

In the year 1862 - - 11

" 1863 - - 10

" 1864 - - 15

" 1865 - - 3

" 1866 - - 0

- 14. The highest number of prisoners locked up on any one night during the year was 795; the lowest was 562.
 - 15. The average daily lock up in 1866 was 686, or 124 higher than in 1865.

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The average number of prisoners nightly locked up since 1862 has been as follows, viz.:-

In 1862 it was 698.
, 1863 ,, 720.
, 1864 ,, 682.
, 1865 ,, 562.
, 1866 ,, 686.

16. The number of prisoners sent to the Civil Hospital for treatment in 1866 was 568, or 9.72 per cent. on the number of prisoners on the prison books.

The per-centage of sick sent to the hospital from 1863 to 1866 was as under, viz.:-

```
In 1863 the proportion was 2.71 per cent.
,, 1864
,, 1865
,, 4.49
,, 1866
,, 9.76
,,
```

The average daily attendance (including prisoners sent to hospital) at the prison surgery for advice and treatment in 1866 was 19.51 or 284 per cent on the average lock up.

The average daily attendance at the surgery in 1863 was 11.78 or 1.63 per cent. of the average daily lock up.

```
    "
    "
    1864 "
    "
    17.69 "
    2.59 "
    "

    "
    "
    1865 "
    "
    11.54 "
    2.05 "
    "

    "
    "
    1866 "
    "
    19.51 "
    2.84 "
    "
```

17. The deaths in 1866 were 30 or 51 per cent. of the total number on the prison books, being an increase of 10 per cent, as compared with 1865.

The following shows the per-centage of deaths in years from 1863 to 1866, viz.:—In 1863 the per-centage was '39

```
In 1863 the per-centage was '39
,, 1864 ,, '39
,, 1865 ,, '41
,, 1866 ,, '51
```

The number of each class of prisoners is as follows, viz.:-

```
Felons - - 15

Misdemeanants - - 10

Convicted by police magistrate - 3

" stipendiary magistrate - 1

Untried - - 1

Total - 30
```

The following table shows the period of imprisonment undergone by the prisoners previous to their deaths:—

```
Under 14 days' imprisonment
More than 14 days but less than 1 month
                                                  3
           1 month
                                 3
                                                  8
                          99
    22
           3 months
                                 6 months
                                                  5
    22
                          "
           6
                                 12 ,,
                                                  4
    "
                          "
                                 2 years
                                                  5
            year
    "
                          "
                                                  2
           2
                                 3
             ,,
```

- 18. Two men were executed during the year, both for murder.
- 19. The punishments for prison offences are shown by the following comparative statement; the solitary confinement, curtailing of rations, wearing chains, and flogging; viz.:—

```
Solitary Confinement,
                       &c. &c.
                                         Flogged.
                  &c.
In 1862
                                           14
,, 1863
                       151
                                            8
,, 1864
                     2,086
                                           17
,, 1865
                     2,012
                                           51
  1866
                     4,236
```

The number of punishments is high, but is attributed to the unusually large number of prisoners kept at work inside the prison walls.

- 20. No escapes were effected from within the prison walls during the year, but there were 27 escaped from out-door working parties.
 - 21. The following is a statement of the escapes annually since 1862, viz.:—
 In 1862 there were 93 escaped.

```
,, 1863
                    104
             "
  1864
                     82
             ,,
                             99
                     77
  1865
99
             ,,
                             "
,, 1866
                     27
             99
                             29
```

22. The number of escaped prisoners recaptured, and brought back to prison, is shown by the following, viz.:—

```
In 1862 there were 54 brought in.
,, 1863
                      41
                              99
  1864
                      43
                              99
99
              ,,
   1865
                      55
              ,,
                              99
   1866
                      19
"
                              ,,
              77
```

- 23. During the year 1866 338 fines, amounting to 3791. 1s., were paid at the prison on account of MAURITIUS, the Municipal Corporation and of the Colonial Government.
 - 24. The number of visits to convicted prisoners was 2,025, and the number of visitors was 2,910.
- 25. The females' prison remains in the same condition as regards discipline, and insufficiency of space and accommodation for the numbers confined therein, as was represented in the report for the year 1865 (paragraph 25).

The highest number of prisoners confined in this ward in 1866 was 40, whilst there is only room for

25 persons.

26. The following statement shows the nature and amount of remunerated labour performed by prisoners during the year, and also the estimated value of the labour of prisoners employed at public works, but not paid for:—

Remunerated Labour.

Leemanerae	eu Laco	our.				
			£	5.	d	
Making nets .	ADDE TO	-	35	6	8	3
Picking oakum		-	45	12	0	
Breaking macadam	-	-	65	15	10	
Carpenter and coopers'	work	-	3	10	2	
Tinsmiths' work -	-	***	0	5	8	
Tailors' work -	-	-	27	17	3	
Mat making -	-	-	2	12	4	
Bed making -		-	2	7	8	
Basket and chair making	g and re	epair	6	14	6-	1
Shoemakers' work	-		88	4	11	
Sewing (by females)		-	12	18	0;	1
		£	291	5	1	1 2
		unissenior)	£	s.	d	
bour supplied for public v	vorks:-	-				
1,028 days' labour for th						
General's Department,	at oa.	per	1 20	DF 7	1	0
	7/	1	1,59	19 1	.4	0
2,970 days' labour for the Corporation, at 6d. per	diem	cipai	. 1	74	5	0
	1	-	£1,89	00	4	11/2
		407	,00			2

In addition to the works for which payment was received, the following were performed by prisoners inside of prison, viz.:—

3,027 conjon shirts were made.
1,789 pairs of canvas trousers were made.
45 ,, boots were made.
48 ,, repaired.
7,224 articles of various kinds were marked.
14 tin ration measures were made.
6,280 pairs of canvas trousers were repaired.
4,540 conjon shirts were repaired.
100 rattan brooms were made.

1 tool chest was made. 20 prison guards' jackets were repaired.

2 chairs were rattaned. 65 shoemakers' lasts were made.

18 ration tubs were repaired.

49 flannel shirts were made.

2 office stools

13 constables' truncheons were made.

720 tin articles were repaired.

2 lamps

Lal

1 watering pot was repaired.

56 wooden spoons were made.

24 rattan baskets

1 office ruler was made.

27. The reimbursement in aid of the expenses incurred by Government for the establishment amounted, in all, to 317l. 10s. $3\frac{1}{4}d$.

28. The following statement shows the number of days on which the prisoners were employed at the different kinds of labour:—

,	Works for which cash is collect	ed:—	Nu	mber of Day	ys.
	Sweepers'		-	9,596	
	Surveyor General's Depart	tment	-	61,028	
	"Inodore" attendance	100		1,602	
	Servants to prison officers'	-	-	3,078	
	Good-conduct prisoners'	-	-	534	
	Doorkeepers' -	1	-	621	

MAURITIUS.

Cooks'	-	2,406
Washing prison clothing -	-	2,316
Making, mending, and marking	g	
clothing	-	6,471
Tinsmiths'	_	277
Coopers'	***	65
Carpenters'	_	525
Barbers'	_	407
Shoemakers'	-	49
Washing corridors, &c	-	148
Filling carts and carrying stones		3,854
Whitewashing and destroying bugs	_	266
Shot drill and walking exercise	_	58,904
Municipal Corporation -	-	2,970
Basket and broom makers' -	-	288
Making nets	-	2,936
Picking oakum -	-	2,737
Tailors'	-	624
Carpenters'	-	9 F
Breaking macadam	-	16,044
Shoemakers' -	-	3,055
Mattrass makers'	-	71
Basket and chair makers' -	-	185
Door-mat makers'	-	81
	_	
		181,138
Not at work:—		
Exempt by sentence		273
Untried prisoners		14,908
Debtors	-	2,444
In solitary confinement -	-	1,477
Under sentence of death	-	129
Sundays and holidays -	-	38,465
Sick and unfit for work -	-	2,302
Transferred to the other prisons	-	453
Juveniles	-	4,104
Females sewing, &c	-	8,542
	· .	
Total	-	254,235

29. On the whole, the establishment was worked as satisfactorily during the year as the structure of the prison would permit.

12th June 1867.

(Signed)

Sholto James Douglas, Acting Proc. and Adv. General.

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.
No. 6.

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

No. 6.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 247.)
My Lord Duke,
Mauritius, 30th September 1867.
I have the honour to forward herewith the accompanying Report from Mr. Swin-

burne Ward, Civil Commissioner of the Seychelles Islands, covering the Blue Book Returns for those dependencies for the year 1866.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c., (Signed) Henr

HENRY BARKLY.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Seychelles, 1st July 1867

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual returns required for the Blue

2. Your Excellency will be pleased to observe that the dependency continues to thrive in all important respects, although there is a slight decrease in the exports for the past

year, and a difference in cocoa-nut oil, the staple product of these Islands, amounting Sexchelles to 1,546l. less than that exported in 1865. This is accounted for by an increased local consumption, and by the fact that prices at Mauritius were so low that a large quantity of oil has been kept in store here, waiting for a rise in the market. The export for 1866 is, however, nearly double the amount of that for 1862, the first year for which I had the honour of making a report upon the state of these Islands.

3. The export of vacoa bags, owing to the short crop of sugar in Mauritius and the consequent small demand for them, has very greatly decreased. This item of commerce, formerly entirely dependent upon Mauritius, is now exported in increasing quantities to Zanzibar and Johanna; but, notwithstanding these outlets, the demand decreased from Mauritius in 1865 to the value of 3,594l. in the past year of 106l. has had a serious effect upon a large class of society in this Island, whose only occupation consisted in

making vacoa bags.

4. The smaller items of commerce have also decreased in proportion. They are absolutely dependent upon the demand from Mauritius, and a fall in prices there speedily discourages minor trades here. Tortoise shell still commands a ready sale and a high price. It was exported to the value of 1,337% last year, and a quantity was sent to France by the overland route, an excellent profit being obtained upon it, notwithstanding the very heavy freight charged by the "Messageries" steamer. Here it is usually sold at 12s. per pound. In London the finest sample is valued at only 11s., but it brings a high price in France and Italy.

5. Judging by the imports, the best test of the internal prosperity of any country, trade is certainly flourishing. The manifests of the vessels trading between Mauritius and this port show that Customs duty has been paid at Mauritius upon goods shipped for Seychelles during the past year to the amount 1,273l. 18s. 6d., showing an increase of more than 100l. upon that paid in 1865. The usual large proportion of this was paid upon wines, beer, and spirituous liquors, viz., 874l. 16s.; but as this port was visited by men-of-war twenty-eight times last year there was no difficulty about their successful

6. The duty levied on rum amounted last year to 1,631l., notwithstanding the large amount of spirits imported from Mauritius, This consumption is wholly local, and is not affected at all by the visits of the men-of-war, as the sailors will not touch it.

7. The strictest measures have been taken for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of the fermented juice of the sugar cane, pine apple, and cocoa palm, throughout these Islands; but although the effect has been that this illicit manufacture has much decreased, the small police force at my disposition is not sufficient to exercise a proper

and effective supervision even over all the Island of Mahé.

8. The manufacture of this deleterious beverage is very simple; no still is required, and no apparatus beyond some utensil for holding the inspissated juice, usually a large calabash, such as is common in every hut. These small huts and houses are situated in all parts of the Island, in all the secluded valleys, and on the apparently almost inaccessible sides of the steep mountains, in situations where the process of making this intoxicating liquid can be carried on without fear of detection or interruption. The raw material costs nothing, a patch of sugar cane grows in the vicinity of almost every dwelling, the cocoa palm thrives everywhere without trouble or cultivation, and the hill sides are covered with pine apples indigenous to the country, most luxuriant in growth, but of an excellent flavour and full of juice. The latter, however, are only available at certain seasons of the year; a beneficial arrangement, perhaps, as I am informed by an old man of considerable experience, that it takes quite two days to recover from a well

developed excess in the poisonous potation made from its juice.

9. This infraction of the law is most especially frequent in the Island of Praslin. No tavern exists there, but intoxication is common enough. There the beverage is made almost solely from the cocoa palm, neither pine apples nor sugar cane being at all abundant; a constable is stationed at Praslin, but as the manufacture of toddy is permitted by law, though it must not be sold after 12 o'clock, there is no possibility of preventing any person from purchasing it before that hour, and allowing it to ferment in his own house afterwards. The only means of checking the practice in Praslin would be, to allow no one to make any toddy at all. In the Island of Mahé every effort of the police has been put in force against it, but there can be no doubt that in all the outlying districts, in the remote valleys, and in the mountain gorges, the law will be frequently evaded. Where taverns exist it is the direct interest of the proprietors to inform against

the illicit manufacturer.

10. The town and its environs have been much improved during the past year, and now present a really creditable appearance. Two new streets have been opened through

Seychelles the most thickly populated portion of the town, and a small swamp, which existed in the vicinity, has been filled up; a great sanitary improvement. Thanks to the liberality of the Government, the Roman Catholic Chapel presents a very different aspect, and is now an ornament to the town, instead of an eyesore, as was formerly the case. The grant in aid of its completion has given the greatest satisfaction to the inhabitants, of whom at least nine tenths are Roman Catholics.

11. In all new buildings, masonry work in coral is wholly superseding wood, now become very scarce and dear, hardly obtainable, in fact, except upon Félicité and Silhouette Islands. Coral is so easy of manipulation that the trade of a mason is very easily acquired here. All ordinary carpenters tools can be employed when working it,

and there is no difficulty about turning it to any pattern required.

12. Land in and near Port Victoria has greatly increased in value. A plot about six miles distant was sold last year for 171. per acre, and I have been offered 2001. for a portion of land reclaimed from the sea in front of the town to the north of the river St. Louis. Several more acres of very valuable land might be easily reclaimed at no great outlay a little further to the north; and should the Victoria Pier be extended to the edge of the reef opposite the Ilot Hodoul, the whole of the space between it and the pier now in ordinary use would be soon filled up by the silt of the sand, and become a most valuable property. The town is fast becoming too small for its annually increasing population, and house rent is more than double what it was four years ago, so that as a speculation the extension of the Victoria pier would answer very well. All vessels trading to this port could lay alongside it at all tides to discharge their cargoes; the owners would gladly pay for such an advantage, and the sale of the land reclaimed from the sea would ultimately recover the whole of the amount expended on the extension of

13. I take the opportunity while on this subject of drawing attention to the very important fact that the harbour is filling up in many places, and that the coral all round the Seychelles group is growing with an extraordinary rapidity. Taking the original survey of Captain Owen, executed in 1825, the difference between some of his soundings and the existing ones is very large; more than might have been expected even after so many years. In one spot on the anchorage near St. Anne's Island, on the opposite side of the harbour, only seven fathoms are now found where fourteen are marked on the chart. In the inner basin, the triangulation of which was made three years ago by the master of the "Orestes," almost on the spot marked as the best and most secure anchorage for vessels of war, and soundings given at seven fathoms, the coral is now within two and a half fathoms of the surface, not water enough for the larger vessels of the East African

squadron, such as the "Highflyer."

14. Another instance, or rather a series of instances, will be found on the whole bank extending from Frigate Island to Eagle Island, the whole of which has much increased, but most markedly when passing half way between Mahé and Silhouette, the ordinary course for ships. In many places, six, seven, eight, nine, and ten fathoms only are now found where thirty-nine and forty are marked upon the chart. According to the men who now constantly resort to this shallow portion of the bank to fish, this difference has taken place within the past four years, but it probably has only been noticed by them since that date. It is at a distance of six miles from Mahé, in the middle of the usual passage for vessels of all classes. Of its actual depth at present I have made certain by personal observation and soundings, but for want of proper instruments I was unable to fix their exact positions on the chart.

15. The same increased growth of coral I am informed by the captains of the different trading vessels and of the whalers cruising in these waters is found on all the banks between this and Mauritius. "Coetivy" is in reality very much larger than what it is marked on the chart, and the soundings very much less, seven fathoms only having been obtained for a distance of 20 miles. At this depth, in anything like heavy weather, the sea would necessarily break. The "Fortune Bank" has greatly expanded. "Sayed de Malha" is becoming dangerous, and is likely to appear above the surface before many

years elapse.

16. It is very important in the interests of navigation that these waters, especially such portions as are frequently crossed, should be re-surveyed. The French charts contain some valuable additions to the English ones, but they are all based upon Captain Owen's. Of the growth of coral nothing absolutely positive is known beyond the fact that it requires a substantial basis. The bank between Frigate and Eagle Islands is part of the Seychelles geological range, and probably, therefore, composed of granite, upon which the coraline insect has commenced its work. This work can be advanced to within six feet of the surface, but the progress of its advance is very uncertain. Still,

the well-ascertained growth of more than twenty fathoms, as is the case in the channel Seychelles between Mahé and Silhouette, supposing the coral to have been growing since the date of Captain Owen's survey, sufficiently denotes the great necessity that exists for fresh

soundings being taken.

17. During the past year the road has been steadily progressing, but with an apparent slowness from its having to pass across an extensive marsh, and from the cost of the necessary bridges, one of which required very large and solid abutments, and another a series of heavy piles, expensive as to their original cost, and both troublesome and expensive to drive in the absence of proper machinery. No support for an abutment was to be found in the bed of the river, composed of quicksand, in which a rod of iron thirty-six feet in length disappeared by its own weight when placed upright in it. These difficulties have, however, been successfully overcome; piles eighteen inches square were driven in to a distance of seventeen feet, and the whole bridge is now perfectly solid. But these bridges, always costly, are necessarily more so here, where no professional engineer exists, where the machinery required has to be improvised and made on the spot, and where no really skilled labour is obtainable.

18. Although the construction of these bridges has curtailed the extent of the road during the past year, it is better, I venture to think, to complete it thoroughly as it advances, by opening the communication by bridges where necessary, than to leave it all but useless for the want of them. The road has already had a decided effect upon the commerce of the country; many more people now come into the town with produce,

and several small shops have been established along it.

19. The instructions sent to me for the settlement of the long-pending question of titles to land have already produced much moral good, by enabling me to ease the public mind with regard to the tenure of land. The liberal terms granted by the Government with regard to provisional concessions have given universal satisfaction to all the sensible portion of the population. Proprietors have now a feeling of confidence and security with respect to their land which they never had previously, and are all most anxious for a final settlement.

20. This settlement, under existing arrangements, will take a very long time, with only one surveyor available for the work,—at least ten or twelve years, and at a cost to the Government, taking the surveyor's salary at 300l. per annum, of between three and four thousand pounds. The major portion of properties throughout the group are held upon provisional concessions, and the mass of smaller ones are at the back of those on the coast line, extending to the hypothenuse of the mountains; a limit that has never been at all clearly defined.

The survey of these small properties will take infinitely more time, and will give infinitely more trouble, than that of those on the plateaux below, often of twenty times their value. It would give great satisfaction to the landholders, and be more economical to the Government, were the necessary work, by the employment of more surveyors,

compressed into a shorter period than that above calculated.
21. The comparatively small amount of crime committed during the past year is a good sign of the increasing prosperity of the dependency, and of the facility with which any man who is willing to work can live. The only serious crime was the murder of an Indian merchant; and although it was not legally proved, there could be no moral doubt that it was perpetrated by three Indians who had come here from Mauritius, and who

were especially interested in the death of the victim.

22. As a general rule, the people are contented, quiet, and prospering, and but few instances of real destitution have come to my knowledge. The very small demand for vacoa bags has made a very considerable difference to the large class of individuals by whom they were manufactured, as there was not, till late in the year, any other minor industry to replace it. At present any man, woman, or child can make a living by picking coir, of which any quantity will be readily bought. This will prove a most important addition to the commerce of the Islands, as the supply of the raw material, now allowed to rot in heaps on all the plantations, is almost inexhaustible. The demand for cocoa-nut fibre in Europe has greatly increased of late, especially in France, to which country all that is at present collected here will eventually be sent.

23. Almost the only cases of real destitution are found amongst the very old emancipated slaves; a race now, happily, very nearly extinct. They habitually live by them. selves, and so long as they can attend to the cultivation of a minute patch of land, and can make occasional visits to the town for their supplies, require nothing. So soon, however, as illness overtakes them, they are quite helpless, and many die in their distant huts, with no one to look after them, except a neighbour nearly as helpless as themselves. If they can struggle into the town they are taken care of; but it is impossible to exercise any

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

surveillance over the health of a people living in the remote valleys high up on the mountain sides. As a class, they have done no good to themselves or to the country since they were emancipated; and it is just as well that such a class, when extinct, will not again exist here. The succeeding generation of old people, both Creoles and Africans, will all have families to look after them when helpless from age or infirmity.

24. The general health of the dependency has been unusually good during the past year. Notwithstanding the increased population, the deaths during 1866 amounted to only 171; nine less than in 1865. The births for 1866 are 342; 48 in excess of those in the preceding year. Sickness of an epidemic or endemic nature is still quite unknown here. In Port Victoria the improved state of health may in a great measure be attributed to the never-failing and very accessible supply of pure water laid on in the centre of the town, the fountain placed there giving 2,400 gallons per hour, day and night; to the opening of the new streets; and to the strict enforcement of sanitary regulations, formerly left all but in abeyance. Under its present aspect nothing like dirt or squalor is to be seen anywhere, and it may be safely asserted that no town in any

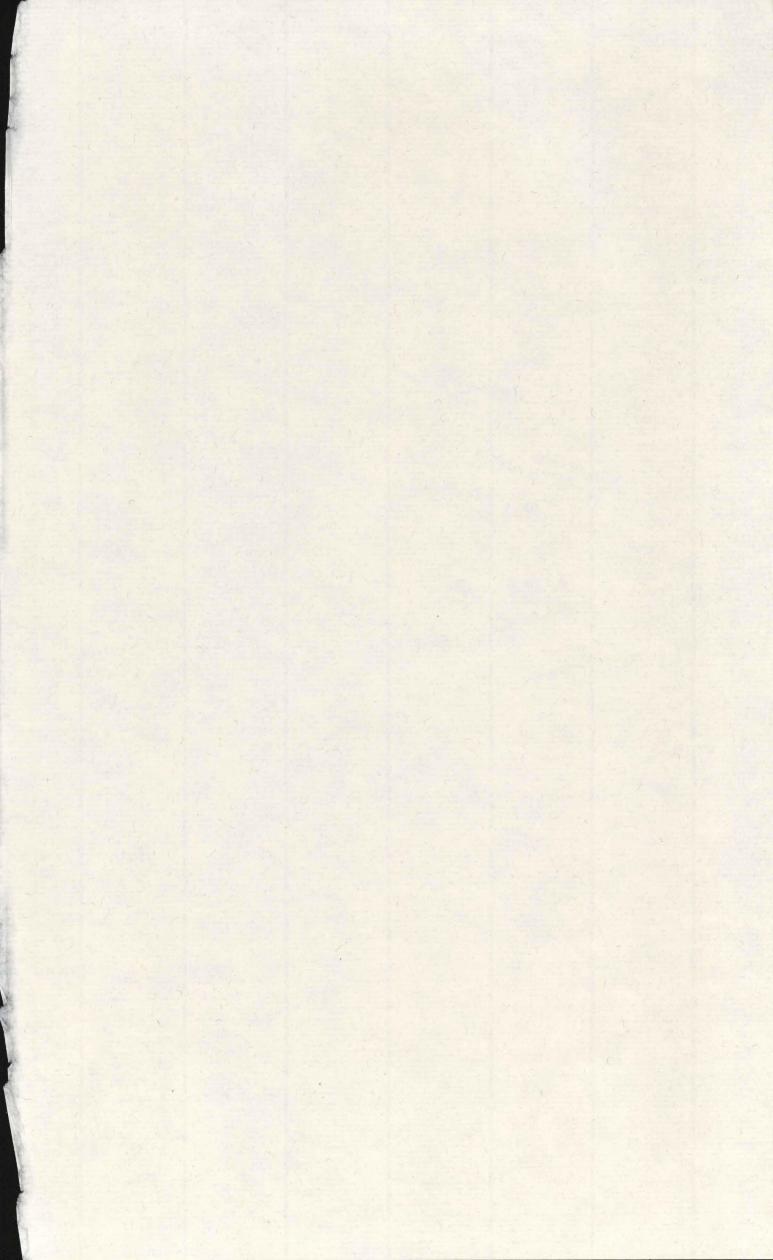
part of the tropics can be compared to this in point of healthiness.

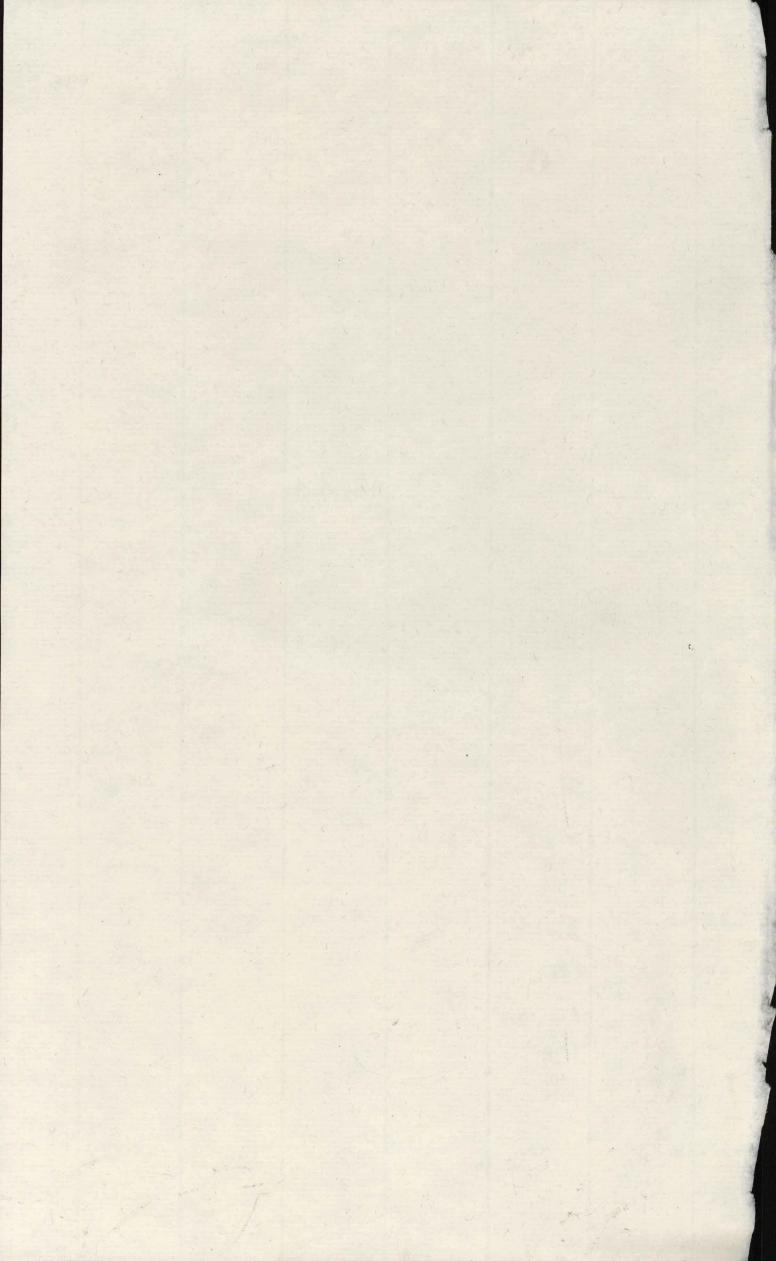
25. To the best of my knowledge, and in the opinion of the Government medical officer, leprosy is distinctly on the decline in these Islands, and is in a great measure restricted to a few families, in nearly all of which consanguineous marriages has been the rule and not the exception. The majority of the inmates at Ile Curieuse are not lepers, but are suffering from elephantiasis, hydrocele, and the cutaneous ailments partially allied to leprosy, unfortunately common among these people. The last of the original patients of the establishment, sent there in 1827, died not long ago at the age of 97. Among the Africans brought here during the past six years, but one case has occurred; that of an African girl, whose leg was amputated on account of injuries received in 1862, and who was sent to Curieuse by my predecessor. She was perfectly healthy when she arrived, but is now an unmistakeable leper. How the dreadful disease was contracted it is impossible to ascertain.

26. During the past year the port was visited twenty-eight times by men-of-war, English, French, and American, but chiefly English, and thirty-six times by merchant vessels, two direct from England. This does not include the Messageries Imperiales steamers, and is a larger number than has ever yet been registered by the port

officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SWINBURNE WARD,
Civil Commissioner.





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